FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

16 JANUARY 1984

Lebanon

Military/Security Situation — U.S. warships shelled hostile positions in the mountains southeast of Beirut after Marine positions near the airport came under fire, Beirut radio reported on 15 January. Two people were killed and 10 others were injured when shells fell in Beirut the following morning, according to the radio. The Lebanese Army exchanged fire with its opponents around the capital over the weekend, the radio noted, and three Lebanese soldiers were wounded on 14 January. Jerusalem radio reported that attacks continued against the IDF in southern Lebanon, according to AFP, while Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri warned that Islamic fighters will step up their attacks against Israeli forces.

Death of Haddad — "Free Lebanon" leader Major Sa'd Haddad died on 14 January and will be buried in Marj 'Uyun on 16 January, Voice of Hope radio announced. At the weekly Cabinet meeting, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir praised Haddad as a "great Lebanese patriot," Jerusalem radio noted. While the radio asserted that Israel and Lebanon have "agreed" that Colonel Ilyas Khalil will replace Haddad as commander of the "free Lebanon" militia, a military source cited by Beirut radio denied this, stating that Col Khalil is a Lebanese Army officer commanding the Arzun sector and has "absolutely no connection with the border militia."

Meanwhile, "authoritative" Israeli sources denied that a successor has been appointed and affirmed that the appointment is the prerogative of the Lebanese Government, according to Jerusalem radio's Arabic service.

Diplomacy — The foreign ministers of Lebanon, Syria, and Saudi Arabia will discuss the Lebanese problem at a meeting in Rabat, where they are attending the Islamic foreign ministers conference, Jidda radio reported. Meanwhile, presidential envoy Donald Rumsfeld returned to Beirut where he met with President Amin al-Jumayyil on 16 January, according to Beirut radio. Rumsfeld also held talks on the security plan with Nabih Birri, but "did not achieve decisive results and the question of the plan remained suspended," the radio said. Earlier, the Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) issued a statement describing the security plan as a "political trap" and rejecting any redeployment of the Lebanese Army before political reconciliation is realized, the Army's tasks are defined, and its command is reorganized, Radio Monte Carlo reported. In Moscow, PSP leader Walid Junblatt held talks with Soviet leaders on 13 January, TASS noted.

Syria

During his meeting with Rumsfeld on 13 January, President Hafiz al-Asad reaffirmed Syria's demand for the annulment of the May 1983 Lebanese-Israeli agreement and stressed that Syrian forces will leave Lebanon "only through agreement with the Lebanese brothers" and when there are no other foreign forces in Lebanon, Damascus radio reported. It is "inconceivable" for Syria to equate its presence in Lebanon with the Israeli presence there, he said, and Syria cannot link its withdrawal with the Israelis'. The United States can play a "positive role" in working toward a "just peace" in the Middle East if it adopts a "neutral stand" on the Arab-Israeli conflict, he contended.

A subsequent Damascus radio commentary on Rumsfeld's visit warned that if President Reagan fails to change his policy, "the dialogue with this administration will be between the deaf" and the loser will be the U.S. Administration and U.S. interests. An Arab diplomatic source cited by Kuwait's *AL-QABAS* claimed that Reagan will meet with Al-Asad in early spring, according to KUNA.

ICO Summit

The delegations arriving in Casablanca to participate in the Fourth Summit of the Islamic Conference Organization (ICO) on 16 January included Saudi Arabia, represented by King Fahd, Syria, represented by Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Iraq, represented by Revolution Command Council Vice Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim, and the PLO, represented by Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, according to Riyadh and Rabat radio reports.

At the conclusion of the 13 January session of the Islamic foreign ministers conference held in Rabat in preparation for the summit, ICO Secretary General Habib Chatti told newsmen the conferees had approved several draft resolutions including a demand for the "unconditional and urgent withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan," Rabat radio reported. Libya, Syria, and the PDRY expressed reservations on the resolution, according to KUNA.

Meanwhile, Iran, which has refused to participate in the ICO summit, is hosting a delegation from the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic, Tehran radio stated. During a 15 January meeting with the visitors, reported by the radio, Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi expressed "surprise" that "such a person as King Hassan is the host" since "Islam is not the religion of the kings and shahs" but "the religion of the masses and the oppressed."

PLO Affairs

After attending the ICO summit in Casablanca, Yasir 'Arafat will go to Amman for talks aimed at reviving the Palestinian-Jordanian dialogue, Algiers Voice of Palestine radio reported on 14 January. The radio noted that PLO deputy military commander Khalil al-Wazir has already arrived in Jordan to prepare for 'Arafat's visit and, according to Radio Monte Carlo, Al-Wazir announced that he will henceforth reside in Amman, which he left in April after the breakdown of the dialogue. As for the PLO's internal problems, Al-Wazir affirmed that the PFLP and DFLP will remain in the organization despite their differences with 'Arafat, but that it will be impossible to find a common ground with organizations "taking their orders from Damascus," according to AFP.

In another development, the Soviet ambassador to Tunisia delivered a "very important" message to 'Arafat as PLO Executive Committee member Mahmud 'Abbas arrived in Moscow to deliver a message from 'Arafat to Yuriy Andropov, according to KUNA.

Egypt

Egypt has notified Israel and the United States that it regrets" Israel's refusal to allow 160 Palestinians to leave Israel to participate in the forthcoming PNC session, MENA reported. Meanwhile, in an interview with *LE FIGARO* reported by Cairo radio, President Husni Mubarak said the Arabs have not yet given President Reagan the opportunity to renew his peace initiative and outline his real intentions. Also commenting on the Reagan plan, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali told *LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS* that Egypt is urging the Palestinians to negotiate and is telling them that this does not mean that they will have accepted the Reagan plan.

Libya

Lebanon will become a "volcano" for the Multinational Force and the Phalangists unless the Israeli-Lebanese agreement is abrogated and the Multinational and Israeli forces withdraw, Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud stated before leaving Damascus in remarks reported by Radio Monte Carlo and AFP. Although the Americans are trying to lower tension in Lebanon because of the impending presidential election, "we will not let them succeed and we will make this year the year of the explosion," he declared. Jallud said Libya is ready to give financial and military support to the Lebanese National Salvation Front and the Amal Movement and, according to Damascus radio, he also "indicated Libya's full material and military support for the Fatah uprising."

Tunisia

Former Interior Minister Driss Guiga formed a "shadow" government to replace Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali's administration during the recent riots, according to a Tunis press report cited by KUNA. Another Tunis paper reported that Libya has responded to Tunisia's note over the sabotage of an oil pipeline by sending the Tunisian authorities a memorandum saying that the bombing was carried out by Tunisians who penetrated Libyan territory in order to give the impression that the operation emanated from Libya, according to KUNA. The memorandum stated that Libya is ready to participate in joint border patrols and to help repair the damage. The Tunisian minister of national economy subsequently announced that the pipeline has been repaired and pumping has been resumed, Tunis radio noted.

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Rabat Foreign Ministers Conference Concludes

13 Jan Morning Session

LD131449 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Text] The Islamic foreign ministers conference, which is preparing the ground for the fourth Islamic summit conference, resumed its meetings in Rabat this morning. The conferees held a closed session under the chairmanship of Moroccan Foreign Minister Dr Abdelouahid Belkeziz. They also held a meeting within the framework of the economic and finance affairs committee under the chairmanship of Moroccan Minister of Commerce, Industry and Tourism Azzedine Guessous. This committee discussed some of the items on the agenda concerning coordination among the Islamic countries in the implementation of development projects and programs in the fields of agriculture, industry and trade.

The cultural affairs committee also met this morning under the chairmanship of Moroccan Minister of Cultural Affairs Dr Azzedine Laraki. It discussed scientific and cultural cooperation among the Islamic countries and the bolstering of institutions working in these fields.

The general meeting this morning discussed Afghanistan and the problems of drought in the African Sahel region.

Following the meeting, the secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization [ICO] made the following statement in which he said: [Begin recording] The foreign ministers resumed their meetings this morning. They began to discuss the items on the agenda, including Afghanistan. Several delegates spoke during the deliberations. All supported our Afghan brothers in their struggle to safeguard their independence. They also supported the Islamic position which calls for unconditional and urgent withdrawal of Russian forces from Afghanistan.

The Pakistani delegate then proposed a draft resolution in this regard. The conference approved it. The draft resolution was actually proposed by the Pakistani foreign minister.

The conference then discussed the drought in the African Sahel region. Several delegates spoke in support of the work of the committee which provides relief to the Sahel countries. The speakers called on Islamic countries to help the committee to enable it to help our brohters in the Sahel. Here, too, a draft resolution was proposed and was approved. [end recording]

The conference will resume its general meeting this afternoon.

We have learned from sources at the conference that a drafting committee has been formed to conciliate between a draft resolution submitted by Syria and another submitted by Palestine concerning the Middle East and Palestine. The committee consists of the delegates of Jordan, Lebanon, Senegal, Pakistan, Palestine, Saudi Arabia and Morocco. The conference decided to add Morocco's name to the Committee of Solidarity With the Peoples of the Sahel Countries.

The general session will be resumed at 1600 today.

Meanwhile, Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal held talks with his YAR counterpart, Dr Ahmad al-Asbahi, on the items on the conference agenda.

It was announced in Tunisia that President Habib Bourguiba will attend the meetings of the fourth Islamic summit conference. This was announced by Ahmed Reda Guerira, adviser to King Hassan II, following an audience he had today with the Tunisian president. He pointed out that King Hassan II sent him to Tunisia to renew the invitation to his brother President Habib Bourguiba.

Iraq-Iran War Draft Approved

LD132114 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Text] The political committee set up by the Islamic foreign ministers' conference has approved a draft solution on the Iraqi-Iranian war. The draft resolution, to be presented to the fourth Islamic summit in Casablanca, takes previous resolutions into consideration and calls for the continuation of efforts aimed at ending this war. This was stated to reporters by Habib Chatti, secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization, at the end of the committee's 3-hour evening session, during which another draft resolution concerning the island of Mayotte was approved.

The committee also decided to present the document on human rights in Islam to the fourth Islamic summit in Casablanca.

The political committee is scheduled to reconvene for a night session to continue discussion of the various points remaining on its agenda. The cultural and social committee and the economic and financial committee met this afternoon [words indistinct].

Resolution on Afghanistan

LD131834 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1613 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Excerpts] Rabat, 13 Jan (KUNA) — Islamic foreign ministers ended their closed meeting this morning. It was held at committee level, at which a number of political, economic and cultural issues were discussed.

It was learned from sources at the conference that the Pakistani foreign minister submitted a draft resolution supporting the Afghan cause for admission to the fourth Islamic summit conference scheduled to open in Casablanca on Monday, 16 January.

A KUNA correspondent has learned that Libya, Syria and the PDRY made reservations about the draft resolution on Afghanistan, which is based on the same resolution adopted at the Dhaka conference.

Sources at the conference said that this evening's foreign ministers' session will be devoted to the Gulf war. They added that the general tendency at the conference tends to favor the revival of the Islamic good-offices committee after a change of its compositon to include new members. The sources added that it is unlikely that the conference will pass a resolution denouncing Iran so as to maintain an atmosphere favorable for the good-

office's committee to resume its mediation to end the war.

It is recalled that all the Islamic countries, with the exception of three, are attending the conference, the three being Iran, which boycotted the conference; Egypt, because of its signing the Camp David agreement; and Afghanistan.

Delegation to Moscow

GF131806 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1740 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Dispatch from WAKH Mission in Rabat]

[Text] Rabat, 13 Jan (WAKH) — It has been learned from sources at the Islamic countries' foreign ministers conference that there has been a proposal to form a special committee to discuss the Afghan problem and be dispatched to the Soviet Union after the conclusion of the fourth Islamic summit conference.

In a statement to the WAKH mission to the Islamic summit, the sources explained that the committee will consist of Kuwait, Pakistan, Algeria, Libya, and Turkey.

PLO's Qaddumi Holds Meetings

JN141802 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] Brother Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi], head of the PLO Political Department and chairman of the Palestinian delegation to the Islamic foreign ministers' conference, is continuing his meetings with the heads of the delegations participating in the conference with the aim of briefing them on the latest developments of the Palestine question.

Brother Abu al-Lutf met with Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal and exchanged views with him on the activities of the Islamic conference, the Palestine question, and the ways of coordinating stands inside the conference and the means of contributing to the success of the conference.

Brother Abu al-Lutf also met with Moroccan Foreign Minister Abdelouahid Belkeziz and congratulated him on his chairmanship of the conference. They exchanged views on the Palestine question. He also received in his place of residence ICO Secretary General Habib Chatti.

Brother Jamal as-Surani, PLO Executive Committee member, attended all the meetings.

Libya's Al-Ubaydi Meetings

LD151549 Tripoli JANA in English 1406 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] Rabat, Rabi Thani 11, January 15, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The Foreign Liaison Secretary Mr 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi has been carrying out intensive contacts on the fringe of the Islamic foreign ministers conference in Rabat which has been in session since January 12.

Mr al-'Ubaydi met with the foreign ministers of Mali, Niger, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Pakistan, Morocco, Bangladesh, Malaysia, Mauritania, Gabon, North Yemen and the Islamic Conference Organisation's (ICO) secretary general. He also met with the heads of delegation of Syria, South Yemen, Benin, Senegal and the secretary general of the ICO's educational, scientific and cultural organisation.

Discussions during these meetings centred on bilateral cooperation and coordination to guarantee the success of the conference and to arrive at constructive resolutions that would serve both the Islamic and Arab nations.

Brunei To Join ICO

LD142204 Rabat MAP in Arabic 1530 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] Rabat, 14 Jan MAP — The Islamic countries foreign ministers conference this morning approved the Sultanate of Brunei's request to join the Islamic Congress Organization. The King of Brunei, Sir Muda Hassanal Bolkiah, will arrive in Casablanca this evening to take part in the Islamic summit conference due to begin next Monday.

Proceedings End; Chatti Cited

LD142238 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Excerpts] The proceedings of the Islamic countries' foreign ministers conference, preparatory to the fourth Islamic summit conference, ended this evening in Rabat. The proceedings of the ministerial conference ended in a closed general session chaired by the Moroccan foreign minister and conference chairman, Dr Abdelouahid Belkeziz. This session was devoted to discussing the draft resolutions prepared by the conference subcommittees and approved by the conference for submission to the meeting of kings and presidents.

Secretary General of the Islamic Congress Organization [ICO] Habib Chatti held a press conference immediatley after the conference ended, at the beginning of which he said

[Begin recording] Gentlemen, the foreign ministers' preparatory conference for the summit conference continued its proceedings today and ended them a short while ago. This morning the conference studied the issue of the occupation of two regions in Somalia by Ethiopia and adopted a resolution regarding this. The conference looked into the U.S. air assault on Syrian positions on 4 December 1983, the issue of the Syrian Golan Heights and Israel's decision to annex it, and the Arab Syrian citizens' sufferings as a result of terror measures, and adopted a resolution on this, and also adopted a resolution on the strategic alliance between the United States and Israel.

The conference approved the submission of the following draft resolutions to the summit: the Islamic Judicial Court, the principal rules of which have now been endorsed; support for the Namibian people; and combating apartheid in South Africa. The conference approved an information plan and a charter of human

rights in Islam. These are the subjects discussed between yesterday evening and today. [end recording]

Regarding a question on the extent of the member-countries' commitment to a draft resolution on opening PLO offices, Chatti remarked that while every country is sovereign, the organization's resolutions are moral commitments of the members. On the other hand, the ICO secretary general announced that the issue of the withdrawal of foreign troops from Lebanon was not discussed because no one forwarded a proposal on the subject, and the conference did not raise the issue of Egypt's membership. Regarding the Iraqi-Iranian war, the secretary general announced that the conference adopted the same resolutions adopted at the Dhaka conference, expressed its satisfaction with Iraq's position, and called for the continuation of the peace commission's activities.

In reply to a question on whether the conference had discussed relations between PLO groups, Habib Chatti said that it did not, in view of the matter being an internal one that concerns the Palestinians alone.

Casablanca Islamic Summit Participants Arrive

Kuwaiti Delegation Reported

LD151114 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0810 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 15 Jan (KUNA) — This morning the amir of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah, left for Casablanca heading an official Kuwaiti delegation to attend the 4th Islamic summit to open tomorrow.

The Kuwaiti delegation to the Islamic summit includes the deputy prime minister, foreign minister and information minister, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah; the minister of finance and minister of oil, Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah al-Adhbi as-Sabah; the awqaf and Islamic affairs minister, Ahmad Sa'd al-Jasir; and the minister of state for the affairs of the Council of Ministers, 'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn.

Tunisian Delegation

LD151358 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] At 1130 today President Habib Bourguiba left Tunis for Morocco aboard a private aircraft to take part in the 4th Islamic summit to begin its work tomorrow, Monday, in Casablanca.

He was seen off from Tunis-Carthage International Airport by Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali and senior state officials, and also by the Moroccan charge d'affaires.

Arab League Secretary Chedli Klibi also left Tunis this morning for Morocco to take part in the Islamic summit conference.

Syria's Khaddam Arrives

JN152043 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] Casablanca — 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister and head of the Syrian delegation to the fourth Islamic summit conference which will begin its work in Casablanca tomorrow, Monday, arrived here today. He was received at the airport by Moroccan Prime Minister Mohamed Karim Lamraniand the members of his government, the Syrian ambassador to Morocco, and the members of the diplomatic corps in Rabat.

King Hassan II and Crown Prince Mohamed received Khaddam and his delegation near the airport building, and wished him a happy stay. The Syrian delegation to the conference is comprised of 'Isam an-Na'ib, assistant foreign minister; Ahmad 'Issa, Syrian ambassador in Rabat; and the heads of the Foreign Ministry's organizations, information, and protocol departments.

Various Arrivals Reported

[Editorial Report] Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic at 1600 GMT on 15 January reports the arrival in Casablanca of the following heads of delegations to the fourth Islamic summit: President Traore of Mali, President Numayri of Sudan, President Bourguiba of Tunisia, Amir al-Khalifah of Bahrain, President Bongo of Gabon, President Kountche of Niger, President Ahmed Abdallah of Comoros, the Amir of Qatar, the Sultan of Oman's special adviser (Tuwini ibn Shihab), Lebanese Premier al-Wazzan, and Syrian deputy Premier and Foreign Minister 'abd al-Halim Khaddam.

At 2000 GMT on 15 January Rabat Domestic Service reports that the following foreign heads of state and governments also arrived and were welcomed by King Hassan II at the airport: Amir of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad As-Sabah, Turkish President Kenan Evren, Senegali President Abdou Diouf, Gambian President Sir Dawda Jawara, Pakistani President General Mohammad Ziaul Haq, UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan al Nuhayyan, and President of Sierra Leone Siaka Stevens.

It adds that the following also arrived: UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, Arab League Secretary General Chadli Klibi, Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, a Jordanian delegation headed by the minister of the Hashimite Royal Court. Jordanian Crown Prince Hasan will arrive tomorrow, the domestic service notes.

At 2300 GMT on 15 January Rabat Domestic Service reports the arrival of PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat.

Fahd Receives YAR President

LD152142 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Text] At his residence in Casablanca, King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz today received YAR president 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih. The meeting was attended by the foreign minister, His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, and by the YAR foreign minister, Dr Ahmad Muhammad al-Asbahi.

Fahd Receives Guinean President

LD160047 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2155 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] Casablanca, 15 Jan (SPA) — His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz received Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure at 2130 in his Casablanca residence.

The meeting was attended by Petroleum and Mineral Resources Minister Ahmad Zaki Yamani; the Minister of Pilgrimage Affairs and Religious Trusts 'Abd al-Wahhab 'Abd al-Wasi; Under Secretary for Political Affairs at the Foreign Ministry 'Abd ar-Rahman Mansuri;Guiean Foreign Minister Abdoulaye Toure; and Guinean Islamic Affairs Minister Fode Soriba Camara.

Fahd Receives Ziaul Haq

LD160039 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2133 GMT 16 Jan 84

[Text] Casablanca, 15 Jan (SPA) — His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'abd al-'aziz received Pakistani President Ziaul Haq in his residence in Casablanca at 2100 today.

The meeting was attended by the Petroleum and Mineral Resources Minister Ahmad Zaki Yamani; Pilgrimage Affairs and Religious Trusts Minister 'Abd al-Wahhab 'Abd al-Wasi; Under Secretary for Political Affairs at the Foreign Ministry 'Abd ar-Rahman Mansuri; Pakistani Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Ali Khan, and Finance Minister Ghulam Ishaq Khan.

'Arafat Receives Soviet Ambassador in Tunis

LD132344 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Text] Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, received tonight, at his headquarters in Tunis, the Soviet ambassador to Tunisia in the presence of the PLO representative, Hakam Bal'awi. The Soviet ambassador confirmed the principled and firm attitude of his country toward the Palestine cause. He said there can be no solution to the Palestine problem unless an independent Palestinian state is established, led by the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. The ambassador praised the struggle of the Palestinian people on all fronts and also the wisdom and courage of Yasir 'Arafat. He also praised the role and attitude of the Palestinian people, represented by their support for their legitimate leadership.

Given 'Very Important' Message

LD141126 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1057 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] Tunis, 14 Jan (KUNA) — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has received a message from the Soviet leadership which is described as "very important." However details of the message have not been revealed.

The message was delivered to 'Arafat when he was received by the Soviet ambassador to Tunisia yesterday evening.

PLO Information Officer Khalid al-Hasan declined to give any details about the message or the talks that took place between 'Arafat and the Soviet ambassador during their 2-hour meeting. He told KUNA that "nothing can be revealed about the contents of the message or the talks because they touch on extremely sensitive matters." Khalid al-Hasan said that "the exchange of letters between the Soviet and Palestinian leaderships continues."

PLO Official Arrives in Moscow for Talks

LD141324 Kuwait KUNA in English 1203 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] Moscow, Jan 14 (KUNA) — Member of Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) Executive Committee Mahmud 'Abbas (Abu Mazin) arrived here Friday night, it was reported Saturday.

Abu Mazin will hold official talks on Arab situation and the Lebanese crisis following the departure of Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat and his fighting men from Lebanon last month.

Abu Mazin is expected to be carrying a message from the PLO leader 'Arafat to Soviet President Yuri Andropov on the latest developments in Fatah organization and results of meetings held recently in Tunisia.

Al-Wazir in Jordan; 'Arafat To Follow

NC152254 Paris AFP in English 2251 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] Amman Jan 16 [as received] (AFP) — Palestinian-Jordanian talks to work our a joint initiative concerning the Arab-Israeli conflict will start here after the end of the current Islamic summit, Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], deputy commander of Palestinian armed forces said here last night.

The last attempt of King Husayn and Palestine Liberation Organization leader Yasir 'Arafat to agree failed last April when Palestinian hard liners objected to letting the Jordanian King sound out Israel and the United States on behalf of the Palestinians.

Mr. 'Arafat will come were immediately after the summit, according to concordant reports. King Husayn said [word indistinct] Dec. 7 that Jordan and the PLO should seek a common viewpoint to submit to the Arab countries to obtain "their benediction and support". Abu Jihad said Mr. 'Arafat will also go to France soon for talks with President Francois Mitterrand.

The PLO favors a French initiative in the Middle East, said Abu Jihad, or reactivation of the French-Egyptian proposal calling for self-determination of the Palestinian people.

The PLO "does not hope for anything from the United States for at least two years," said Abu Jihad. Therefore intervention of an international body would be necessary to resolve the Mideastern conflict, he stressed.

He affirmed that the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) and Iraqi-influenced Arab Liberation Front (ALF) would stay in the PLO despite "differences on certain points" (with Mr 'Arafat) because they wanted to maintain PLO unity.

But it would be impossible to find a common ground with other organizations "taking their orders from Damascus", he said.

Further Details

JN150619 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] The arrival of Khalil al-Wazir, deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, in Amman is an indication of the desire of both the PLO and the Jordanian officials to maintain and consolidate bilateral relations. Stating this in Amman, an authoritative Palestinian source added that the Palestinian officials noted with great attention the reactivation of parliamentary life in Jordan after it was frozen for 10 years.

Abu Jihad, who arrived in Amman from the GDR yesterday evening, told AFP that he will stay in the Jordanian capital. He said that his home has always been there and that his children, whom he has not seen for 7 months, lived there. Abu Jihad left Amman on 10 April last year following the suspension of the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue. Yasir 'Arafat is expected in Amman on 20 January at the end of the Islamic summit meetings in Casablanca.

Hawatimah, Habash Meet Algeria's Ibrahimi 12 Jan

JN131401 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 13 JAN 84

[Text] The delegation of the joint command of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine and the PFLP led by Nayif Hawatimah and George Habash met yesterday with Ahmad Taleb Ibrahimi, Algerian foreign minister. According to a Palestinian source in Algiers, the talks dealt with the Palestinian and Arab situation in light of the recent developments in the Middle East, particularly the 'Arafat-Mubarak meeting and the reconvening of the Jordanian Parliament.

The Palestinian-Algerian meeting affirmed the PLO's unity, and stressed the need to take political and practical measures in order to prevent the Camp David policy from penetrating into the Palestinian arena. It also stressed the need to safeguard the independent national decisionmaking.

The statement that was issued following this meeting warned of the attempts to encroach on what the Palestinian source described as the PLO's sole representation of the Palestinian people by dividing this representation in the West Bank and Gaza among the Arab countries. What is certainly meant here is the reactivation of the Jordanian Parliament, which represents both the west and east banks of Jordan —the work of this Parliament was frozen at the 1974 Rabat Arab Summit, which decided to consider the PLO the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

'Arafat Receives Message From India's Gandhi

JN131833 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1614 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Text] Brother Comrade Abu 'Ammar has received a message from Mrs Indira Gandhi, Indian prime minister, in which she affirmed her full support for Abu 'Ammar's efforts to further escalate the Palestinian people's struggle in order to achieve their established rights. She expressed a desire to sustain India's distinguished relations with the Palestinian people and their revolution under the leadership of the PLO, their sole and legitimate representative. Ramesh Bhandari, secretary of the Indian External Affairs Ministry, conveyed the message to Abu 'Ammar in Tunis yesterday.

Libya's Jallud Meets With Palestinian Leaders

LD131443 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Text] Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud received this morning in Damascus brothers Khalid al-Fahum, PNC chairman; and Abu Mahir al-Yamani; Talal Naji 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar and Muhammad Khalifah, members of the PLO Executive Committee.

Meets Syrian, Lebanese Politicians

LD141513 Tripoli JANA in English 1421 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] Damascus, Rabi Thani 10, January 14, Jamahiriyah News Agency — Staff Major Jallud met at his temporary residence in Damascus last night with Mr Ina'm Ra'd, the chairman of the Syrian National Social Party. Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud met here at his temporary residence last night with Mr Abdelrahim Murad the secretary general of the Arab Socialist Union in Lebanon and Mr Omar Harb his assistant secretary.

'Arafat Cables Egyptian Organization on Support

NC151637 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1555 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] Cairo, 15 Jan (MENA) — Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee Chairman, has affirmed that faith in the unity of the Arab peoples' common struggle to resist Israeli hegemony over the Arab nation was the motive for his recent meeting with President Muhammad Husni Mubarak in Cairo. In a cable received today by the Egyptian AAPSO committee, 'Arafat also affirmed that the Palestinian people displayed heroic steadfastness in the face of the Israeli war machine and foiled its plan to liquidate the Palestinian revolution and its cause — a plan

in which Syria and Libya had participated.

'Arafat expressed his thanks to Egypt for its firm stand in support of the Palestinian Arab people's struggle, which expresses the genuineness of Egypt's national affiliation with the Arab nation's march. He also extended his thanks to the Egyptian people for welcoming him in Egypt. At the conclusion of his cable, 'Arafat affirmed that the Palestinian people will continue their revolutionary march with a strong will and unflexing determination until Palestine is liberated and the Palestinian people's unalienable national rights are restored.

The Egyptian AAPSO committee, under the chairmanship of 'Abd ar-Rahman ash-Sharqawi, sent two cables to Yasir 'Arafat last week on the anniversary of the Palestinian people's revolution expressing solidarity with the Palestinian people's just struggle.

Anti-'Arafat Pamphlets Distributed in West Bank

JN160758 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 16 Jan 84 p 18

[Text] The day before yesterday suspect elements distributed hundreds of pamphlets in several West Bank and Gaza cities. These pamphlets were green and were headed "Who are you 'Arafat?". They assailed the PLO and its leadership — an act that serves only the Palestinian people's enemies. The citizens denounced this act and burned a quantity of these pamphlets.

PLO Protests to United Nations on Israeli Laws

JN131830 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1614 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Text] The PLO and the Committee in Exercise of the Palestinian People's Inalienable Rights have protested against the Israeli occupation authorities' amendments according to which they impose Zionist laws on the occupied West Bank and Gaza. In a message to the UN secretary general, the committee said that the Zionist measures are a prelude to annexation of the occupied territories —which is a blatant violation of the UN Security Council and General Assembly resolutions. It is worth noting that Brother Commander Abu 'Ammar had sent a message to the UN Organization concerning the Zionist enemy's recent measures that are aimed to seize and Judaize the occupied Palestinian land.

PLO Radio on Anti-Israeli Operations in Lebanon

JN141800 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] A group of Palestinian and nationalist Lebanese resistance men attacked an occupation troop concentration near the Az-Zahrani River in southern Lebanon with hand grenades and machine guns, killing or wounding several Zionist occupation soldiers. A Zionist military spokesman admitted the operation and said that only three soldiers were wounded in the attack. The added that his forces besieged the area and carried out an intensive search campaign, but in vain.

Another group of the Palestinian and nationalist resistance men attacked a Zionist military patrol in the township of An-Nabatiyah in southern Lebanon with hand grenades and machine guns, killing or wounding the patrol's elements. The Zionist spokesman admitted this operation and said that his forces immediately opened machine gun fire haphazardly, cordoned off the area, and searched for the attackers, who withdrew safely to base.

A third group of the Palestinian and nationalist Lebanese resistance attacked a Zionist military position in the village of (Makdushiyah) south of Sidon in southern Lebanon with machine guns, killing or wounding several Zionist soldiers. An Israeli army spokesman admitted the operation but, as usual, did not mention losses. He said that the Zionist forces besieged the area and cut off the roads linking the village with Sidon. This was followed by a large-scale search for the ones who carried out the operation and who returned safely to base.

Fatah's Khalid al-Hasan on Armed Struggle, Egypt

GF150953 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0750 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 15 Jan (WAKH) — Khalid al-Hasan, alias Abu as-Sa'id, PNC member and PNC foreign relations official, affirmed that the Palestinian military choice is important as long as the occupation exists and that there cannot be a Palestinian struggle without an armed struggle. In an interview published in the Abu Dhabi newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD* today, he said that the armed struggle is a determined right in all the international laws, including UN law, and the UN resolution which gave the Palestinian people their right to struggle in order to restore their rights by all possible means, within the UN Charter. Thus, the Palestinian military struggle is a fact imposed by the existence of the occupation. He said that Fatah opens its arms to all the Palestinian organizations that did not open fire at the camps and the fighters, affirming the concern for strengthening the bonds of the national unity within the PLO framework. Referring to relations with the Arab countries, he said that Fatah realizes Syria's importance and at the same time it knows the importance of Jordan and the Arab solidarity. He expressed his hope that Syria, Jordan, and the PLO can be a front which is based on the principle of working for Arab solidarity and confronting the Zionist plans.

About Yasir 'Arafat's visit to Cairo and the effects of this visit on the Camp David accords, he said that the Zionist enemy regarded the visit as a violation of the accords. He affirmed that any negative or positive step which Egypt takes and is away from the Camp David, even if it was a small one, should be encouraged and developed. He praised the Egyptian people's role in hindering the normalization of relations with the Zionist enemy. Referring to what has been said about the existence of a political agreement between Egyptian President Husni Mubarak and Yasir 'Arafat on the negotiation with the Jordanian king, as a preparation for negotiation with all the sides, Khalid al-Hasan said that 'Arafat did not mention any agreement, and that if there is such an agreement, it has no value unless it is ratified by the Fatah Central Committee and then by the PLO Executive Committee, which is the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

GULF AFFAIRS

GCC Foreign Ministers Meet in Rabat

GF131400 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1300 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Text] Rabat, 13 Jan (WAKH) — The foreign ministers of the GCC member-states taking part in the meetings of the Islamic countries' foreign ministers conference in Rabat met here today.

The topics listed in the agenda of the foreign ministers' conference were discussed during the meeting, in addition to coordinating the stands of the GCC states concerning current Arab issues in order to put an end to Arab disputes, unite the Arabs and reach united resolutions and stands to confront the serious threats to the Arab nation.

BAHRAIN

Foreign Minister Comments on GCC, Parliament

GF131120 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0720 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Excerpts] Nicosia, 13 Jan (WAKH) — Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah said that the GCC is representing the great hopes of the people of the region, and the sons of the Arab nations in general.

In a statement published in the second issue of the Cyprus-based magazine *AT-TA'AWUN AL-KHALIJ*, which will be published on 15 January, the Bahraini foreign minister said: The joint economic agreement and cooperation in security, defense and political fields among the GCC states are very important matters. What was achieved in this field during recent years is a serious attempt to establish a new reality in the region that will constitute a basis for special Gulf and Arab cooperation.

On the possibility of the restoration of parliamentary life in Bahrain, Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah said: His Highness Bahraini Amir Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman and His Highness Khalifah ibn Salman, the prime minister, have reiterated that democratic work is our custom and nature. We are seeking to develop life in Bahrain in a way that is compatible with the requirements of the Bahraini people.

The foreign minister expressed his hope that the day will come when there will be a parliament in Bahrain that will be compatible with the development of the economic and political situation. He said: We are always working for the development and growth of democracy in this region.

The Bahraini foreign minister denied that there is any intention to reshuffle the Bahraini Government. He described such reports as "seasonal rumors."

New Zealand Energy Minister Visits Manama

Amir Receives Visitor

GF140842 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0815 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Manama, 14 Jan (WAKH) — His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, the amir of Bahrain, met here this morning with William Birch, New Zealand minister of energy, who is currently visiting Manama. The scope of cooperation between Bahrain and New Zealand in all fields was discussed during the meeting.

Meeting With Industry Minister

GF141105 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1023 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] Manama, 14 Jan (WAKH) — Yusuf Ahmad ash-Shirawi, minister of development and industry, met here this morning with William Birch, the visiting New Zealand minister of energy, and his accompanying delegation. After the meeting, Ash-Shirawi said the New Zealand energy minister's visit to Bahrain is the result of an invitation from the State of Bahrain, in consideration of his position as president of the International Energy Agency. He said he held fruitful talks with the energy minister on the scope of energy cooperation between the two countries. The two countries have much experience in refining and industrializing oil, he said. Ash-Shirawi added that an agreement was reached between the two countries to exchange expertise in various energy fields, because of the similarity between the two countries in early oil explorations and in refining and industrializing oil.

The meeting was attended by Shaykh 'Isa ibn 'Abdallah Al Khalifah, under secretary at the Ministry of Development and Industry, and Maston, New Zealand consul-general in Bahrain.

KUWAIT

Official on Investigation of Bombing Incidents

PM131522 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 12 Jan 84 pp 1,4

[*ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* Gulf bureau report: "Kuwaiti Under Secretary Says No Measures Against Iraqis and Lebanese"]

[Excerpt] Kuwaiti Foreign Under Secretary Rashid 'Abd al-'Aziz ar-Rashid said that it cannot be determined whether Iran was responsible for or participated in the recent bombing incidents in Kuwait. He affirmed that the matter is still in the hands of Kuwaiti security authorities and that the investigation of the detained suspects is continuing.

In a statement to *ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT*, Ar-Rashid said that the number of those accused in the case has now increased to 21, and that there is not a single Kuwaiti citizen among them. He stressed that the measures taken by the Kuwaiti Government

following the explosions are purely of an organizational nature and affected only those who violated Kuwaiti residence laws.

He affirmed that the reports about members of the Iraqi and Lebanese communities are unfounded and denied that Kuwait decided not to grant visas to Iraqis, Lebanese, or other nationalities. He said: "I am responsible for the issue of visas and I have not issued any decisions in this respect."

The Kuwaiti under secretary said that the recent incidents in Kuwait did not affect its attitude toward the unified security agreement put before the GCC. He said: "In Kuwait, as in other countries, we have been the target of such incidents, but these did not affect Kuwait's attitude and the present situation here. The question of the security agreement has nothing to do with these incidents. Indeed, contacts regarding the agreement are still continuing between the GCC countries. Before long, there will be full agreement on the security agreement."

He stressed that cooperation between the Gulf countries exists with or without the agreement. Signing the agreement will only be a culmination of existing cooperation. Under no circumstances should we link a disturbance with a legal matter, he added.

Amir Receives Portuguese Foreign Minister

GF131050 Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 12 Jan 84 p 4

[Excerpt] HH the Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, yesterday received the Portuguese foreign minister, Jaime Gama, at the start of his official visit to the country.

An official statement said Gama handed the amir a message from the Portuguese president but did not refer to its contents.

Gama later conferred with the Defense Minister Shaykh Salim al-Sabah who is filling in as foreign minister for Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad. The latter departed earlier for Morocco for the pan-Islamic conference.

Well-informed sources said Gama and Shaykh Salim discussed the development of bilateral relations, especially in the economic field. The two ministers also reviewed prospects for a settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Palestinian problem, the latest developments in Lebanon, and the efforts to secure a political solution to the Iraqi-Iranian war.

Gama arrived late Tuesday from Baghdad where he was received by President Saddam Husayn.

Venezuelan Energy Minister Departs for Libya

LD141138 Kuwait KUNA in English 1038 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] Kuwait, Jan 14 (KUNA) — Venezuelan Minister for Energy and Mining Arturo Hernandez Grisanti left here Friday night for Libya following a one-day visit to Kuwait. He was seen off by Kuwaiti Oil and Finance Minister Shaykh 'Ali Al-Khalifah al-Adhbi.

During his stay, the two ministers discussed a number of issues concerning the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) as well as the current situation of the international oil market and their expectations on future prospects for the market.

The minister's visit, which also covered means of boosting bilateral relations, was within a tour of the Arab OPEC members — Saudi Arabia, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, and Kuwait.

Grisanti is expected to head for Algeria from Libya.

Paper Questions Value of Casablanca Meeting

GF151145 Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 14 Jan 84 p 6

["Comment" column by Chief Editor Ahmad al-Jarallah: "Are These Meetings Really Necessary?"]

[Text] What will happen at the conference of Islamic countries in Casablanca?

What happened at all the previous meetings? Are these and summit meetings really necessary?

If important action is required, nothing serious is usually done, and any decisions are taken lightly by the international media. This could be due to the fact that we are not firm enough in implementing such decisions.

What, for example, will the conference do about the Iraq-Iran war? While one of the parties has shown it wants peace, the other is cooperating with the devil to add fuel to a conflict that is not only wasting the wealth of the two combatants, but that of the whole region.

The OAPEC countries now find themselves the victims of the Western consumer who feeds the needs of these countries for money to spend on the war.

What will the Islamic conference do about the other problems of the Islamic world?

Will they punish those who have been profligate with Islamic manpower and money?

Will the Afghan cause be left to become another Poland?

King Hassan has succeeded in lifting the standards of decisions taken at conferences in his country, and this Islamic conference needs to make decisions of a high standard, with group punishment for those who do not toe the line. Thus, anyone who does not abide by group decisions should find himself alone, and punished by those he offends.

If strong action is not taken, then the Islamic conference will end as many others have ended — with resolutions which come to nothing.

QATAR

Muslims Urged To Stop Soviet Aggression

GF140914 Doha QNA in Arabic 0840 GMT 14 Jan 84

[From press review]

[Excerpts] Doha, 14 Jan (QNA) — The Qatari newspaper *AR-RAYAH* today called on the world's Muslims to stop Soviet influence in Afghanistan warning against the danger of this same type of aggression, as typified by the Soviet invasion of this Muslim country, showing itself in other Arab and Islamic countries.

In its editorial today, *AR-RAYAH* noted the great interest the Afghan issue receives in the Muslim world today — together with the Palestinian cause and the Iraq-Iran war — which was represented in the draft resolution adopted by the Islamic foreign ministers, currently meeting in Rabat, condemning the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan.

The paper noted that the Marxist regime in Afghanistan removed the old religious and civil institutions over the last 5 years under the protection of the Soviet Army, in order to set up alternative Marxist institutions which do not find any support or protection in the Afghan nation.

AR-RAYAH said the Muslim world felt the threat of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan right from the start, not only because it devastated a Muslim country and enslaves its regime makeing it its surrogate, but also because such aggression can be repeated in other countries.

In conclusion, *AR-RAYAH* affirmed that in view of the Soviet obstinacy to keep a military presence and political and economic control over Afghanistan, all Muslims throughout the world should move to stop this grave influence before it sweeps all of us.

SAUDI ARABIA

Official Discusses Dispute With Kuwait

NC131623 Beirut MONDAY MORNING in English 9-15 Jan 84 pp 80-83

[Text] A little-publicized dispute in the Gulf region, where concern over security has been helghtened by the recent wave of bombings in Kuwait, could be resolved soon, thus defusing a potential source of friction in an area which, at this stage, needs much good will and cooperation.

The possibility of an early settlement of a Saudi-Kuwaiti dispute over property ownership rights of the nationals of each country in the sections of the common border area formerly known as the neutral zone was held out by Prince Ahmad ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the Saudi deputy minister of the interior. The conflict arose after a recent demarcation of the borders split the zone into two sections — one Saudi and the other Kuwaiti — and left a large number of Saudi nationals residing in the area administered by Kuwait.

The Saudi minister told *MONDAY MORNING* in an interview that the recent visit by a senior Saudi official to Kuwait could pave the way for understanding that would settle the dispute which consequently arose over land ownership and related issues.

Prince Ahmad, a brother of King Fahd, said that the incidents in Kuwait last month did not come as a total surprise, and warned that further attempts would be made to destabilize the Arab world. He expressed hope that differences within the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) on the procedures for the extradition of wanted people would be resolved, allowing the approval of a joint security pact. Kuwaiti reservations over proposed extradition rules have so far blocked approval of the final version of the pact Prince Ahmad indicated.

Prince Ahmad cited Lebanon as an example of what can happen if security requirements are not balanced against the desire to maintain an open-door policy. He said his country was seeking to help Lebanon overcome its present difficulties, but stressed that the key to peace in Lebanon rested with the Lebanese themselves.

The Saudi official predicted that the foreign workforce in his country would shrink considerably by the end of 1984 as major infrastructure projects now under way are completed, and as skilled local manpower becomes more capable of carrying out the work currently being done by expatriate labor.

The Saudi deputy minister recalled that for many years there was a jointly-administered neutral border zone between Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. Later, following the demarcation of the international boundaries between the two countries, the zone was administratively divided into two sections, one belonging to Kuwait and one belonging to Saudi Arabia. Some of the inhabitants of the zone, who were mostly Saudis, ended up being in the Kuwaiti section.

"We had considered this — namely the residing of Saudis in the Kuwaiti section and the residing of Kuwaitis in the Saudi section — to be a natural thing," Prince Ahmad said. "However, some administrative and municipal authorities, and others, started to treat the inhabitants on the basis of their nationality. Consequently, Saudi nationals were harassed through the raising of questions about the ownership of farms, houses and land."

The situation reached a "point where, in the words of the Saudi minister, "we asked the sisterly (Kuwaiti) authorities to compensate our nationals for their land, if they wished to sequestrate their property. We asked them, otherwise, if they had no intention to take over their (Saudis') property, to safeguard the property rights of the Saudi nationals."

The Saudi minister acknowledged that fears had been expressed about the possibility of the emergence of disputes between the two countries over the issue. "I know that questions have been raised over the possibility of disputes arising between two sisterly states" bound together in the GCC, Prince Ahmad noted.

"The problem has not yet been solved. The problem is not with us, but with the Kuwaitis," he contended. "It is surprising that it should remain pending until now, with all the existing compli-

cations, despite the existence of agreements anticipating such matters. I really think the problem will be resolved shortly."

The Saudi prince described a recent visit by the Saudi undersecretary of the interior, Dr Ibrahim Al-Awaji, to Kuwait as positive, but he noted that no final solution had been reached. "The problem has not been settled yet," he said, adding: "The settlement must come from the Kuwaiti side."

Differences over property rights and the status of nationals in the former neutral zone do not overshadow the much more important issues that are of common interest to both Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, including the key issue of Gulf security, especially in view of the implications of the bombing incidents in Kuwait in December.

Prince Ahmad, who assumes full responsibility for security and internal affairs whenever his brother, Interior Minister Prince Nayif Ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, is absent, stressed the importance of security in the Gulf region, but he indicated that no special measures were introduced in his country in the wake of the December 12 Kuwaiti bombings.

"In the Kingdom, we did not take any extraordinary measures as a result of what happened in Kuwait," he declared. "The Gulf is not as vulnerable as some believe it to be. It has its immunity, and such possibilities are taken into account.

"Vigilance must be maintained, especially in view of the fact that those who seek to create instability in the Arab world are many and well-organized, and they are doing all they can to harm the Arabs. The events in Kuwait were preceded by predictions and anticipations warning of such incidents," he added.

The Saudi minister admitted that there were no specific warnings about the bomb attacks, but he cited press reports and references in the media to plans to jeopardize the security of the Gulf region.

"Kuwait was a target, naturally," he noted, "because of its open-door policy to the world, and due to (the presence of) opposing factions which were loyal to Iraq and Iran, for example, and others such as the Syrians and Palestinians. All these factors were bound to have repercussions, and they ultimately led to what happened.

"The effort to reconcile the desire to remain open to the outside world and provide a haven for workers and refugees with the preservation of security and stability imposes a heavy burden on a state like Kuwait," the Saudi minister went on, asserting that "open-door (policies) give rise to situations which a small country cannot handle. Lebanon is larger than Kuwait, yet it paid the price of its open-door policy because it remained small compared to the designs of those who came into it. Ultimately, it blew up. Stability remains the prime issue for every country."

In a further reference to the Lebanese crisis, the Saudi minister noted that his country was searching in all directions for hopeful elements in the Lebanese situation.

"But the ideal optimism," he said, "must come from the Lebanese themselves. They still have a high morale and have not lost their nerve despite all that has happened."

Prince Ahmad stressed that the Lebanese had a pivotal role to play in resolving their problems.

"I am fully convinced," he said, "that the Lebanese, before anyone else, will decide on whether there will be peace or war in their country. The problem today is: How will the Lebanese get together? If they get together, they will be able to resolve their problems. This is what the Kingdom and all those who love the Lebanese are striving for.

"The coming together of the Lebanese after all the fragmentation and alienation resulting from outside influence will alone be the basis of peace," he added.

The far-reaching impact of the Lebanese crisis, and the desire to prevent the spread of violence that has rocked Lebanon for nearly a decade, were reflected in the guarded references by the Saudi minister to the security of the Arab Gulf and to preparations and plans for the conclusion of a joint security pact between the GCC states — Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Oman, Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates.

"Ministers of the interior of the Gulf Cooperation Council states decided to discuss certain aspects of the proposed security pact in cooperation with a team of experts," the Saudi official disclosed, stressing that differences were minor.

"The disagreement was slight, and revolved around one specific point related to the extradition of nationals from one state to another, and whether that should be compulsory or discretionary in case of an extradition request or in the event a crime is committed."

"In other words," the Saudi minister said, "the issue was whether or not a state would be required to hand over the wanted person, or could exercise its own discretion." The majority of the Gulf states advocated that the handing over of wanted people should be mandatory under such conditions — a position stipulated under existing agreements.

"Kuwait, however, expressed reservations," the Saudi prince said, "and it advocated that the extradition of wanted people should be decided by the state in which the wanted person resided, which would be in accordance with the Arab League charter. Kuwait felt that any decision contrary to the Arab League system could lead to constitutional complications.

"There are no other differences," Prince Ahmad asserted. "There is full agreement on other issues. The whole matter has been blown up by the press."

The Saudi minister noted that the Kuwaiti bombing incidents had at least one positive side-effect. "One of the benefits of any security imbalance in any of the Gulf countries," he declared, "is that it leads to greater cohesion between the sister states. The recent incidents provided an incentive for greater coordination and a more positive approach to security."

Any discussion of security in the Gulf region immediately gives rise to speculation about the role and future of the hundreds of thousands of migrants and expatriates who, in many Gulf countries, far outnumber the nationals of the country. The involvement of some of these outsiders — Arab and non-Arab — in security incidents in the past has only fueled speculation of a possible crackdown on migrant workers and raised questions concerning loyalty and security risks.

Prince Ahmad, who is directly involved in security affairs in the dominant GCC country, admitted that the abnormally high numbers of outsiders in the Gulf countries posed a security risk. "The influx of labor," he noted, "means an increase in people who have their own problems. This large number, which has reached around two million (in Saudi Arabia), has special significance. Thankfully, there is generally no disturbing indicator of any danger arising from the presence of large numbers of foreign workers. One figure of special significance is that 40 percent of the prisoners in (Saudi) prisons are non-Saudi nationals."

The presence of the huge foreign labor force in Saudi Arabia and other Gulf countries makes the issue of foreign labor in that region of vital importance to a large number of countries in the Middle East, the Indian sub-continent and the Far East, which supplied increasing numbers of workers for major construction projects in the Gulf in recent years. Any moves against the foreign working force in the Gulf could have serious repercussions on the economies of many Third World countries, which rely on the remittances received from their nationals working in the Gulf.

"We have been thinking of limiting the foreign workforce for a long time," the Saudi prince revealed. "We have been considering the reduction of the number of foreign workers, especially in view of the fact that most of the foreign manpower is not technical, but semi-skilled or unskilled. This (foreign work force) will be reduced, or phased out, as work on the infrastructure is completed, especially work on projects such as construction of highways and public utilities, which require thousands of workers. These workers will gradually be returning to their home countries as work on these projects is completed."

Prince Ahmad predicted that there would be a significant drop in foreign manpower in the Kingdom during the year. "I expect a large decrease in the number of foreign workers by the end of 1984, in view of the emergence of competent Saudi manpower to replace them," he said.

Economic Cooperation Accord Signed With Iraq

LD141356 Riyadh SPA in English 1221 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] Riyadh, Jan 14, (SPA) — Saudi Arabia and Iraq have signed an accord on economic and trade cooperation between the two countries, it was announced here today.

The accord was signed by Hasan 'Ali, the Iraq commerce minister and a member of the Revolutionary Council, and Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Khuwayter, the Saudi education minister and acting finance and national economy minister.

The accord included several principles which will facilitate and develop trade exchanges as well as movement of capital between the two countries. They will also ensure investment guarantees for citizens of the two countries.

The accord also highlights tables relating to custom exemptions on agricultural, industrial, animal and natural resources.

Before the signing ceremony, officials of the two countries held a series of contacts on various aspects of cooperation which ultimately led to an accord on economic and trade cooperation.

On the other hand, 'Ali, who arrived earlier today on a few days'visit to Saudi Arabia, also conferred with Commerce Minister Dr Sulayman Salim on all spheres and avenues of cooperation pertaining to the accord, as well as prospects of the Saudi private sector's participation in the investment field.

Defense Minister Receives U.S. Senator Moynihan

LD160932 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0910 GMT 16 Jan 84

[Text] Riyadh, 16 Jan (SPA) — His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, minister of defense and aviation and inspector general, this morning received U.S. Senator Daniel Moynihan. A number of topics of mutual interest between the Kingdom and the United States were reviewed during the meeting.

AL-JAZIRAH Urges Support For Jackson in U.S.

PM160930 Riyadh AL-JAZIRAH in Arabic 9 Jan 84 pp 2, 30

[Jasir al-Jasir article: "In Order To Give Assurance to Those Who Sympathize With the Arabs, Jackson Must be Supported"]

[Text] To follow up on yesterday's article about U.S. Democratic candidate Jesse Jackson, in response to the brothers who inquired about how they can support this American leader who sympathizes with Arab causes, and before going into detail about how support can be given to U.S. personalities who support Arab causes, it must be noted here that writing about Jackson and explaining how he can be effectively supported is first and foremost due to the known attitudes of this American leader Third World countries in general. This is what has won him the hostility of the pro-Israeli Jewish organizations, foremost of which is a newly-established organization called "Jews Against Jackson." The Jews have threatened Jackson more than once, the latest occasion being 6 weeks ago when he met with Jewish leaders to pacify their fury against him. The Jewish leaders have stirred up black Jews against him simply because he sympathizes with the Palestinians.

Therefore it is both a duty and beneficial to support this candidate, especially since he is the only black candidate. This will give him an advantage in the media over the seven other Democratic candidates, giving his statements publicity in the media and therefore having a positive effect on our causes.

Also, Jackson is known for his oratory and is considered the best speaker among the candidates. Despite the fact that it is almost

certain that he will not win the election, it is certain that Jackson's activities and his obtaining a good position among the Democratic candidates will lead to a large number of blacks occupying key political posts. Definitely, a large number of them will win seats in the House of Representatives and Senate,as well as gubernatorial and other state posts.

So that Jackson can achieve all this and prepare the ground for the expected changes in U.S. policies from which the Arabs will benefit most, effective steps must be taken to support Jackson. But U.S. laws are a hindrance to any material support from abroad. U.S. law also limit contributions by individuals to $1,000 and by organizations to $2,000. This makes it very difficult for Arab sympathizers to give material support to a candidate in order to succeed.

But in order to overcome this difficulty we must understand the U.S. ways and methods so that we can achieve the maximum possible success for Jesse Jackson, because in the past those who stood with the Arabs have lost because of their stand. One of the many examples was former U.S. UN Ambassador Andrew Young. Another example was Congressman Paul Findley, who lost his seat in 1982 because the Jews financially supported his opponent.

Therefore, supporting Jackson should not only be an expression of gratitude but also a means of reassuring others who wish to align with their country's interests, which agree with the Arabs' interests.

In order to provide reassurance and support for those who side with the Arabs we can pursue several methods:

1. Help American Arab organizations and persuade them to give the maximum contribution to Jackson.

2. Persuade those organizations to join the Political Action Committee [PAC] network. This is similar to a chain of stores owned by a single establishment or several establishments. These little stores cooperate to give material aid to those who support the stands of those who established them. There are not many American Arab organizations — five so far, the biggest being the American Arab organization against discrimination. Therefore they need to establish a PAC and join others in establishing them so as to give repeated aid to a single candidate.

3. Try to encourage a large number of American Arabs to make contributions and prepare a list of them. We can count on a large number since there are about 3 million Americans of Arab origin. Among these there are about 15,000 American Arabs who are apparently prepared to participate in the lists of American Arab organizations. Supposing that only 5,000 of these each contributed about $1,000 to Jackson — he would have $5 million, which is a large amount if we realize that Walter Mondale, the strongest Democratic candidate, so far has only $10 million.

4. Persuade companies operating in the Arab countries to make maximum contributions through the PAC.

5. Persuade financiers, such as bankers, to give the necessary financial loans to candidate Jackson.

Commentary Urges Action, Not Words Against Israel
LD152337 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 15 Jan 84

[News and comment by Husayn al-'Askari]

[Text] Observers expect developments in the course of the Arab-Israeli conflict as a result of the attempts on the international arena to reach a just and permanent solution to the problem.

It is better that the sword should be in our hands and not on our neck. These were the words of Refa'el Eytan, the enemy's chief of staff, when his forces stormed Lebanon. These words reveal the dimensions of the Jewish personality, which is characterized by evil, and reflect the insistence on imposing a fait accompli by the force of arms in order to make the others deal with the Israeli option and nothing else.

The talk is now about power mania, which was and still is a factor in the discussion of developments in the Arab-Israeli conflict. It seems that this talk, which started to increase recently, gives the impression that some moves might be sponsored by powers that want to end a problem whose effects were suffered, and are still being suffered by a people who have lost their land and are scattered everywhere. But we must take into consideration the errors of the enemy's thinking, and his mistakes in dealing with the facts of the matter.

The Arabs have submitted their strong and clear option through the Fes initiative. So there is no excuse for saying that the Arabs have not said what they want. This is the accusation repeated by the opponents of the Arabs and their feeble friends. But what happend with the clear Arab option? The enemy increased its arrogance, even escalated its sword-waving in the face of the international community. It stormed Lebanon and committed the most appalling crimes by burning the land and its population in Lebanon, and is still continuing to do so through its occupation of Lebanon and its efforts to push events to the point where they explode in the Lebanese arena.

These are facts that bring out the difficulties of dealing with Israel. Because of this, the responsibility of the countires that want to find formulas for the just and permanent solution to the problem must be restricted to pressure, especially by those countries supplying Israel with the means to survive. The pressure must be applied on Israel to make it abandon its power mania and its insistence on the theory that the Israeli sword must be continuously on the necks of others, because the other party will definitely sever this hand, and the sword will fall.

Then the result of the equation will not be in favor of the security and peace of the region whose stability is seen by those outside of it as stability for the human family. But to what extent can the Arab person deal with words that lack action?

UAE

President Speaks to Federal National Council

GF140852 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0645 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Speech by President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan to the opening of the first ordinary session of the sixth legislative term of the Federal National Council in Abu Dhabi on 14 January; delivered on his behalf by Minister of Health Hamad 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Madfa' — live]

[Text] Brother speaker and members of the Federal National Council:

In the name of God, praise be to him. Today we will open the first ordinary session of the sixth legislative term of your honorable council. The members of the Supreme Federal Council and I are pleased to congratulate you on the opening of the new legislative term. We seize the opportunity to emphasize our gratitude for and pride in the constructive role the Federal National Council has played over the past years. We pray for God to always guide you in shouldering your national duty to sincerely cooperate with the government in order to fulfill the cherished hopes of our homeland and glorious nation.

Brothers: All of you lived in the days of the pre-council era and understand the difficult situation the UAE people faced before they achieved independence and their will was united in proclaiming the council on 2 December, 1971. Thank God we were able to surmount the obstacles of the past and concentrate on the hopes of the present and future. Thus, reason ruled personal whims, and conscience will conquer the fetters of the past.

The federation made its path, its bases became firm, and its accomplishments expanded all over our good land. Through our pioneering federation experience we were able to face challenges and surmount obstacles and complete its 12th year with more strength and determination to continue on the road of construction and progress.

Today we are reaping the fruits of what we planted yesterday. Every citizen can see the great and accelerated achivements all over the country, particularly in education, health services, networks of paved roads, power and water, housing and construction, agriculture and social and cultural care, and other projects and services which greatly contribute in ameliorating the conditions of life for a better life for all citizens. All of this requires us to thank God for his grace, and do our utmost to preserve our achievements and continue to work sincerely and seriously without dissipiation or negligence so that productivity will continue and hopes will be fulfilled in building a good and honorable society of freedom, security, and stability.

Brothers: We were all saddened by the news of the recent attempt at sabotage and treachery in the fraternal country of Kuwait, which attempted to undermine security and stability and threaten the citizens' interests. We declared our total support for the efforts being made to face acts of terrorism and to provide security and stability for the region's states.

The UAE also made an efficient contribution to the constructive efforts of the GCC to enhance and coordinate cooperation among its members and achieve cohesion and integration in all fields. We appreciate with great pride what the GCC countries have achieved on the levels of political coordination, security and defense cooperation, and economic integration in promoting their common interests and fulfilling their pan-Arab aspirations.

At the same time, we will not hesitate to support efforts being made to stop the war between Iran and Iraq and settle this dispute through peaceful means to protect the vital interests of the region's peoples, avert the threats menacing them, keep them away from international conflicts, and preserve the human and material resources in the Arab and Islamic states so they can be employed in construction and development. The common interest of all countries of the world entails putting an urgent end to this tragic war, and to restore love and enchance peace in the entire region.

In addition, the UAE has done its best to play its role in supporting just Arab and international issues and has called for the withdrawal of the invading Israeli forces from all the Arab and Islamic territories which it occupied, particularly from Jerusalem, the first of the two Qiblahs and the third holiest place. It has also called for condemning the continued Israeli aggression in Lebanon, the Zionist settlement policy in the usurped Arab territories, its expulsion of Arab inhabitants, its causing innocent bloodshed, its atrocities against the religious places, and its violation of the international laws and resolutions. The UAE government has expressed support for the fraternal Lebanese people in liberating their land and preserving their political sovereignty and independence.

We call on the international organizations, the superpowers, and the peace-loving countries to support right to find a just and overall solution to the Palestinian cause based on guaranteeing the Palestinian people's legitimate rights and confirming their right to self-determination. At the same time, we have to emphasize the need for an independent Palestinian will and try our best to employ all necessary means to support the Palestinians in restoring their usurped rights.

Perhaps the most important of these factors and necessary means is restoring Arab solidarity and disregarding the existing differences in compliance with God's teaching: "Do not dispute with one another, lest you falter and your strength depart from you." [Koranic verse]. For the sake of these cherished goals, we look forward to our participation in the ICO summit and the Arab summit conference, which are scheduled to be held in the upcoming days. We are hopeful that necessary decisions will be adopted to protect the common interests of our Arab and Islamic nations.

Brothers: I have asked the Council of Ministers to present a detailed report to your honorable council on the accomplishments during the past year and on the projects and plans the government will be carrying out during the new term. These will be discussed with the concerned ministers and enhance the federation march and fulfill our people's aspirations.

We are called upon, brothers, to concentrate on the threats and challenges surrounding our nation and the cherished hopes of our

people. They all require us to rise to the responsibility to be able to give and produce. All the state's authorities are called on to cooperate and shoulder their duties to promote the nation's good and for the sake of its people's happiness. We are also called on to deepen the sense of responsibility. Every citizen should perform his duty sincerely in serving the homeland and play his role in promoting the society's progress and preserving its achievements to ensure a good future for the next generations and confirm man's freedom, dignity, security, and goals.

Brothers: You are all called upon to work sincerely and seriously to preserve our achievements and fulfill our goals and aspirations. The road is long and the future is bright, God willing. We should adhere to our God's book and the traditions of his prophet — God's peace be upon him and his family — in compliance with God's teachings: "If you support the cause of God, he will support you and render your feet firm." [Koranic verse]

May God guide your steps. Peace, God's mercy, and blessings be upon you. [applause]

YAR

Salih Makes Statement, Leaves for ICO Conference

GF141410 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1135 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] San'a', 14 Jan (WAKH) — Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the armed forces and secretary general of the General People's Congress, left San'a' this afternoon for Casablanca heading his country's delegation that will take part in the fourth Islamic summit conference which will begin in Casablanca on Monday.

In a statement prior to his departure, President Salih said: Our participation in the Islamic summit conference is the result of the importance of the issues on the agenda of the conference, which demand from all the utmost alertness and honesty in shouldering the historical responsibility and coordination between the peoples of the Islamic nation so that they can overcome their various problems.

He added that he will exert all possible efforts with presidents and kings to ensure the success of the conference in achieving clear results and in settling all the issues.

He said that during his stay in Morocco he will hold bilateral talks with the presidents of the Arab and Islamic countries for the purpose of unifying views and achieving Arab-Islamic solidarity.

Mubarak Congratulates Bendjedid on Reelection

NC131858 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has sent a cable of congratulations to Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid on his reelection as president. The text of the cable follows:

Your Excellency President Chadli Bendjedid: On my behalf and on behalf of the Arab people of Egypt, it pleases me to send you the most sincere heartfelt congratulations on your reelection as president. The Algerian people's renewal of their confidence in your wise leadership reflects their determination to carry on the struggle for the sake of the lofty principles and noble objectives for which the glorious Algerian revolution was started.

Your brothers in Egypt, who stood with you in the same trench while you were waging the battle for dignity and freedom, are fully confident of your great people's ability to achieve all of their national aspirations with their deep faith, firm resolve, and readiness for sacrifice.

French Paper Interviews Mubarak on Mideast

NC142230 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] President Husni Mubarak has called on the Arab states to agree on a strategy that serves their interests under the present circumstances. In an interview with the French publication *LE FIGARO*, the president expressed regret over the Arab disputes and said they do not serve the Arabs, but probably foreign states.

On PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's departure [from Tripoli] and his visit to Cairo, the president said 'Arafat's departure does not mean the end of 'Arafat; he will continue to be the symbol around which all Palestinian sides will rally. The president added: 'Arafat's visit to Cairo does not at all mean that Egypt is moving away from the two Camp David accords; we attempted to come closer to achieving a peaceful settlement of the Palestinian problem through our meeting with 'Arafat. This is because rapprochement between Egypt and 'Arafat facilitates the achievement of a type of Jordanian-Palestinain rapprochement necessary for starting a more comprehensive dialogue on the [Palestinian] problem.

On the situation in Lebanon, the president said if rumors of the existence of a Syrian-Israeli agreement to partition Lebanon are true, we will not find ourselves faced with a Palestinian problem but with a Palestinian-Arab problem that will have serious repercussions. He added: It will definitely lead to an escalation of tension and conflict among the area's states.

On U.S. policy in the area, the president said: We must admit that the Arabs have not yet given President Reagan the opportunity to renew his initiative for Mideast peace and to outline his real intentions. The president added: President Reagan's initiative can be applied now and we do not want the Palestinian issue to weaken; all opportunities must be seized to enable the Palestinians to [word indistinct] the self-determination issue.

Asked of his intention to forward a new Mideast peace plan, the president said there are several plans and therefore there is no room for a new one. However, the important thing is for all the parties concerned to agree on holding negotiations.

Regarding the question of mutual recognition between the PLO and Israel, the president said Israel, being a state, does not need the PLO's recognition. 'Arafat had entered into negotiations with the Israeli Government on the exchange of prisoners and this is regarded as tacit recognition of Israel. Mubarak added that 'Arafat does not want to destroy Israel as many people reiterate. 'Arafat only wants to regain his people's legitimate rights.

With regard to the situation in Afghanistan, President Mubarak said: I state that the Islamic states have given aid to Afghanistan, but within the framework of the Islamic Conference Organization. Commenting on the internal situation in Egypt, on the basis that it is the only country in the area in which calm prevails, President Mubarak said: We thank God for that.

AR-RA'Y: Mubarak Reportedly To Visit Iraq 'Soon'

JN131145 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 13 Jan 84 p 1

[Text] Amman — *AR-RA'Y* has learned that Egyptian President Husni Mubarak will visit Iraq and other Arab countries soon. The Egyptian president's visit aims at renewing Egypt's support for Iraq in the Gulf war, as President Mubarak does not believe the war will end soon. These visits are expected to take place in wake of the Islamic Summit Conference, to be held in Rabat on 16 January.

INA: Al-Baz on Gulf War, Relations With Iraq

JN130934 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0840 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Text] Baghdad, 13 Jan (INA) — Dr Usamah al-Baz, Egyptian President Husni Mubarak's adviser for foreign affairs, has stated that there is an international consensus that Iran is responsible for the prolongation of the war with Iraq.

In an interview with *ATH-THAWRAH* today, Al-Baz said Iranian officials will reach the inevitable conclusion that a prolongation of the war will be detrimental and that all aspects of the Iranian economic and moral situation will increasingly deteriorate.

Al-Baz said Iraq announced it agreed to end the war, has no designs toward Iran, and the relationship between the two neighboring countries must inevitably be based on principles of cooperation and good neighborliness. Al-Baz added that Iraq is not waging the war simply to defend itself, but also to defend the Arab nation and its vital interests throughout the Arab homeland.

On Iraqi-Egyptian relations, Dr al-Baz said: We are cooperating with the Iraqi brothers with an open heart, and cooperation exists in the economic, military, political, and cultural fields. There is also a spiritual cooperation.

He described the explosions in Kuwait as a harbinger of danger, and added: We must realize that this danger extends to all Arab countries, particularly those in the Arab Gulf.

Dr al-Baz emphasized that Iraq's confrontation of this danger is in settlement of a pan-Arab tax, and that it is famous for its boundless offering and readiness to sacrifice. That's why we are not surprised by this offering and steadfastness.

Muhyi ad-Din Congratulates New Jordanian Premier

NC151240 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1210 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] Cairo, 15 Jan (MENA) — Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din sent a congratulatory cable to the new Jordanian Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat. The cable reads:

I am pleased to send you sincerest congratulations and best wishes on the occasion of your appointment as prime minister of Brotherly Jordan. I congratulate you along with the members of your Cabinet and wish you good luck and success in achieving the well-being of the fraternal Jordanian people.

On 'Dialogue' With Arabs

NC131414 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1330 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Text] London, 13 Jan (MENA) — Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din has stated that dialogue exists between Egypt and most of the Arab states, with the exception of one or two, and that Egyptian-Arab relations have become good despite the nonexistence of diplomatic relations.

In a statement to the London-based Arabic language magazine *AT-TADAMUN, the prime minister said the Egyptian-Arab* dialogue during the Mubarak era is constructive and that Egypt is ready to restore diplomatic relations with any state which so desires.

Dr Muhyi ad-Din added in his statement, which the magazine will publish on Saturday, that we are in no hurry for such routine procedures because we believe relations between Egypt and the other Arab brothers are stronger and more deeply rooted than the formal or diplomatic framework acknowledged in international relations.

Discussing the Palestinian and Lebanese situations, Dr Muhyi ad-Din said that PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat can adopt bold decisions which can change the course of events in favor of peace and 'Arafat's huge popularity, which he enjoys outside Syria and the areas it controls in Lebanon, such as the West Bank and Gaza, helps him do so.

Dr Muhyi ad-Din affirmed that the Lebanese problem is not separated from the Palestinian issue and that what happened among the Palestinian factions and the departure of 'Arafat and his supporters from Tripoli affect the Lebanese issue, especially in regard to the direct Palestinian presence on Lebanese territory. He also noted that the recent Lebanese reconciliation meetings in Geneva were important and necessary for drawing Lebanon's map.

In his statement to *AT-TADAMUN*, the prime minister called on the EEC countries to try and persuade Israel to accelerate the wheel of peace, especially following the change that has occurred in international public opinion. He said: The EEC countries have not used their special relations with Israel in a very influential way. He noted, however, that the EEC countries' stand toward the Middle East issue and the resolutions and recommendations they have adopted, including the Venice declaration, are very satisfactory.

Regarding the internal situation in Egypt, Dr Muhyi ad-Din said the primary problem facing Egypt is economic, although we have been implementing economic reform for 3 years, as testified by international financial quarters.

Foreign Minister Confers With PNC Official

NC151537 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, today met with PNC Secretary Muhammad Subayh as part of the Egyptian-PLO contacts and consultations. The discussions during the meeting focused on issues of mutual concern.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali briefed the Palestinian official on the objectives of the Egyptian moves which aim at serving the Palestinian cause. Subayh said the circumstances through which the Palestinian cause is passing require Arab solidarity, because only that solidarity would enable the Palestinians to obtain their legitimate rights. That solidarity, Subayh added, is also needed so that the Palestinian people would enjoy international support.

Cairo 'Regrets' Israeli Decision on PNC Members

NC141852 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1740 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] Cairo, 14 Jan (MENA) — MENA has learned that Egypt has notified Israel and the United States that it regrets Israel's rejection of Egypt's request to allow 160 Palestinians, who are PNC members, to leave Israel to participate in the council's forthcoming session.

It has also been learned that Egypt told the two countries that this Israeli stand could obstruct the peace process and that Egypt wished such a step would contribute to bolstering moderation.

Last Thursday, Israel informed Egypt of its refusal to allow the Palestinians to leave, using the pretext that the PLO Constitution has not yet been amended, especially with regard to the idea of Israel's destruction.

Ghali Returns From French, African Tour

NC152136 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, returned to Cairo this evening at the conclusion of a tour which took him to France, Togo, Benin, and the Ivory Coast. After his arrival, he stated that he carries messages from the presidents of

France, Togo, and Benin to President Muhammad Husni Mubarak in reply to the messages which his excellency sent to the heads of those states.

Dr Ghali said while in France he discussed recent developments in the Middle East crisis and the joint position of Egypt and France on working toward restoring the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. He added that the discussion also dealt with the resubmissionof the Egyptian-French draft resolution at the Security Council. He said it is necessary to hold contacts securing the agreement of the Security Council member states before submitting that draft resolution. He said France is making efforts in its capacity as current EEC chairman, to solve the Palestinian problem.

Dr Ghali said his talks in Togo, Benin, and the Ivory Coast focused on relations between Egypt and those states and ways to strengthen them in various fields. The discussion also dealt with subjects pertaining to the future of the OAU, the Chad issue, Western Sahara, Namibia, and Egypt's views on those issues.

The radio correspondent has learned Dr Ghali will submit a report to President Muhammad Husni Mubarak on the results of the talks he held in France, Togo, Benin, and the Ivory Coast.

Paris Paper Interviews Ghali on Developments

PM131348 Paris LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS in French 10 Jan 84 p 17

[Excerpts from interview with Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali by Dominique Lagarde in Paris on 9 January]

[Text] The Future of the Franco-Egyptian Plan

[Ghali] The drafting of that resolution by France and Egypt necessitated a whole series of contacts with the PLO, the Lebanese Government, and the United States. The situation has changed and it would therefore be necessary to resume those preliminary contacts. There is no question of trying to oppose U.S. diplomacy and thus can be no question of trying to have that resolution adopted if there is to be a U.S. veto. We think there is some complementarity between European or French diplomacy and U.S. diplomacy. We want to avoid "duplication" which does not help the Palestinian question. Consequently, there can be no question of calling for a vote on that document if the United States opposes it. Therefore, it is necessary to envisage contacts with the United States on that document.

What strikes us as important is that, through such a resolution, it might be possible to bring a start of dialogue between the PLO and United States. Indeed, our diplomatic action is particularly aimed at establishing a dialogue between the PLO and United States and between the PLO and Israel. We know the difficulties involved, but this resolution, or more generally, action within the UN framework, could help bring that rapprochement. These contacts are vital if we want the peace process to have a real existence. In our view the time has come to take new initiatives to try to create a new "momentum" in favor of a peace process. The U.S. election year must not be one of waiting in which nothing would be done.

Jordanian-Palestinian Dialogue

We think it vital for that dialogue to resume. Resumption of those negotiations and creation of a common diplomatic front between Jordan and the PLO is another way of creating this "momentum" in favor of a peace process. Here, too, Egyptian diplomacy is prepared to act as intermediary or take part in the preliminary negotiations if the two sides so wish.

The aim of those negotiations is to produce a mandate to negotiate which would be given to the Jordanian Government and a number of Palestinians representing the West Bank and Gaza, either in the Jordanian delegation or the Egyptian delegation. If that is achieved, it will then be possible to start negotiations with Israel with U.S. support.

The Reagan Plan

It isn't essential to negotiate on the basis of the Reagan plan. When negotiations open, everyone will be able to have his own view. The Americans can have the Reagan plan, and the PLO the Fes plan. The precise goal of the negotiations is to find common denominators in positions which initially seem entirely contradictory.

The Americans argue in the following way, and it does have some logic: We made a proposal; if the two protagonists reject it, we are trapped by that double rejection. On the other hand, if one of the two accepts it, then we will be in a position to try to persuade the other. However, the Israelis are satisfied with the status quo. It is the Arabs and Palestinians who stand to gain by taking action.

We are telling the Palestinians to sit down at the negotiating table, and telling them this does not mean they will have accepted the Reagan plan. We did not ask for "guarantees" before negotiating with Israel.

The Lebanese Crisis

We upheld the idea that it was first necessary to solve the Lebanese problem with the aim of persuading moderate Palestinians to take part in the peace process. They argued as follows: If the Americans are incapable of securing Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon when the Israelis have stated that they had no territorial ambition there, what will they be able to do about the West Bank and Gaza? That is why we tried to obtain a solution to the Lebanese problem, to create a precedent which could persuade them to take part in negotiations. However, we realized that in the final analysis no progress was being made and that meanwhile the situation in the West Bank and Gaza territories was deteriorating. However the main priority is to safeguard the Palestinian presence in those territories.

The 'Arafat-Mubarak Meeting

It was not planned long in advance. We knew he was going to pass through Egypt and thus contacted the PLO office in Cairo to tell them that if 'Arafat wanted to meet with the President, we were prepared for him to do so. That visit enabled us to give new impetus to the peace process. It was an exchange of ideas on how to use the coming months for action.

Economy Minister Returns From Jordan

NC160704 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0630 GMT 16 Jan 84

[Text] Cairo, 16 Jan (MENA) — Economy Minister Dr Mustafa as-Sa'id this morning returned to Cairo from Amman following a 2-day visit to Jordan during which he visited King Husayn in the Al-Husayn Medical Center and wished him a speedy recovery.

As-Sa'id also met Jordanian Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat and congratulated him on his new positions.

During the visit, Dr as-Sa'id attended an economic seminar on international finance and money markets organized by the Jordanian Central Bank.

Chief of Staff Receives General Vessey

NC151446 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1305 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] Cairo, 15 Jan (MENA) — Lieutenant General Ibrahim 'Abd al-Ghafur al-'Urabi, Armed Forces chief of staff, today received in his office General John Vessey, chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, who is currently visiting Cairo.

Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production, is expected to receive Gen Vessey on Tuesday. Gen Vessey arrived in Cairo last Wednesday on a several-day visit to Egypt.

Australian Health Minister Arrives for Visit

NC151650 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1630 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Cairo, 15 Jan (MENA) — The Australian health minister arrived in Cairo today on a 6-day visit to Egypt at the invitation of the Ministry of Health.

During his visit, the Australian minister will hold talks with Egyptian officials on ways of strengthening cooperation between the two countries, particularly in the health field.

Ambassador to Britain Returns to Post 13 Jan

NC131202 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1130 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Text] Cairo, 13 Jan (MENA) — Egyptian Ambassador to Britain Hasan Abu Sa'dah left Cairo today for his post following a 1-month stay here. During his visit, Ambassador Abu Sa'dah met for consultations with Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs.

Ambassador Abu Sa'dah was also present during the visit British Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs Geoffrey Howe made to Cairo.

SLP Leader Questions Government on U.S., Israel

PM131507 Cairo ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 10 Jan 84 p 3

[Unattributed report: "What the Government Press Did Not Report on the People's Assembly: The Opposition Leader on the Government's Program"]

[Excerpt] Opposition and Socialist Labor Party [SLP] leader engineer Ibrahim Shukri declared in the People's Assembly last week that the government's program spoke of the U.S.-Israeli strategic cooperation agreement in very tender words, describing it as a possible obstacle to peace despite the fact that it represents more than that, that its dangers are more than just a possibility, and that it has been described as certain catastrophe.

During the debate on the government's program, the opposition leader asked: But what does the Egyptian Government think of the United States as a neutral and equal party, and what about the question of inviting U.S. forces to participate in the Multinational Force? Is the government's view still the same?

He added: I ask the Egyptian Government: Will the military facilities approved for the Rapid Deployment Force still be maintained and will joint U.S.-Egyptian military exercises continue now that the United States and Israel are joined in a pact of complete military cooperation? Can this continue under any pretext or name? Then there are reports on the arrangements already made and still being made for the use of Ra's Banas base by U.S. forces if they so desire.

Referring to the policy of nonalignment, Shukri said the opposition lauds that policy and Egypt's commitment to it. The opposition, he added, believes it is only logical that attempts be made to improve Egypt's relations with the Soviet Union. It is just inconceivable that those relations should be frozen, he said.

He continued: In view of certain attitudes, we must affirm our line and boost the nonalignment policy in reality and practice. Attempts should be made to strike some kind of balance without harming Egypt's position. On the occasion of the fourth anniversary of the invasion of Afghanistan, we fully condemn it.

He also said the opposition hails the efforts being exerted to achieve Arab rapprochement. He added: The government should have listed the steps to be taken to bring us closer to our Arab brothers. We salute the great gesture toward our Arab brothers reflected in the reception accorded PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat in Cairo. That gesture is tantamount to a major rectification of a position we wanted rectified because our attitude has always been one of support for the Palestinian cause. The opposition salutes President Husni Mubarak and expects the government to translate this into practical steps in the near future.

Speaking about Egyptian-Israeli relations, Ibrahim Shukri said: In view of Israel's attitude, we must treat it the same way. Our insistence on not sending the Egyptian ambassador back is perfectly correct and must be maintained. There should be clarity on these matters. We must not listen to what the Egyptian charge d'affaires says about the ambassador's imminent return. We consider his statement as irresponsible.

Opposition Parties Abstain on Government Program

PM131352 Cairo ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 10 Jan 84 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Labor Party Abstains in Vote on Government Program"]

[Text] In the vote on the government's program taken at the end of last week's People's Assembly session, the Socialist Labor Party [SLP] led by opposition leader engineer Ibrahim Shukri abstained.

Shukri said that while it supported certain aspects of the program, the opposition had reservations regarding other aspects, thus explaining the decision to abstain. The rest of the opposition joined the SLP in abstaining. Engineer Ibrahim Shukri listed the reasons which prompted the abstentation.

Laws Banning Opposition to Pact With Israel Hit

PM131120 Cairo AL-AHRAR in Arabic 9 Jan 84 p 4

[Hasanayn Karrum article: "In the Name of Egypt, We Demand Abolition of Those Laws"]

[Text] I do not agree with those demanding the abrogation of the peace treaty with Israel in response to its violations and continued aggression against the Arab countries. However, this is not because I believe in the treaty.

It is one of the worst treaties Egypt has been forced to sign in its contemporary history. Rather, it is because abrogation of the treaty now would obviously mean that Israel would reoccupy Sinai without us having adequate strength to prevent this, in which case we would be forced to accept an even more unjust treaty. Abrogation of the treaty will take place despite the United States and Israel and despite some NDP figures, who consider themselves trustees of the treaty. It will take place when we have sufficient strength to ensure that the decision to abrogate is safe.

The late Mustafa an-Nahhas in 1951 abrogated the 1931 treaty with Britain which he himself had signed. He then made his famous pronouncement in Parliament: "I signed the treaty in the name of Egypt and in Egypt's name I ask you to abrogate it."

The late Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir in 1956 also abrogated the treaty he signed with Britain in 1954 following Britain's aggression with France and Israel against Egypt.

Abrogation of treaties is not a novelty, but the circumstances determine when they can be abrogated without causing serious damage. The abrogation of the treaty with Israel would be a disaster for us which we cannot tolerate. For this reason we reject the demands that it be abrogated.

But what we demand to preserve Egypt's dignity as a state and the dignity of the Egyptian people is the abolition of all the shameful laws passed during As-Sadat's era which provide punishment for those who oppose the peace treaty with Israel, including imprisonment, fines, and deprivation of political rights, such as standing in elections, membership on boards of management, and the formation of political parties. Egyptian citizens investigated because they called for a boycott of the Israeli pavilion at the Cairo International Book exhibition in January 1981 included Kamil Zuhayri, 'Abd al-'Azim Munaf, Samir Farid, Salah 'Isa, Hilmi Sha'rawi, and others. Ahmad Nasir, Wafd party candidate for the Umbabah constituency, was persecuted and investigated because he attacked the peace treaty.

The committee on parties, consisting of Egyptian officials, rejected the establishment of the Justice Party, including such influential nationalist personalities as Kamal Ad-Din Husayn and Mumtaz Nassar, because the party founders opposed the treaty. A judicial ruling was then issued supporting the committee's decision on the basis of the laws banning opposition to the treaty.

This is taking place in Egypt at a time when the Shamir, who opposed the treaty, heads the Israeli Cabinet, and includes ministers who opposed it including the defense minister. The Knesset includes members who opposed and still oppose the treaty without the ruling party, at the instruction of its chairman, ordering their dismissal.

This is also taking place at a time when Egypt has declared that Israel has violated the treaty by refusing to return the Egyptian Taba area, continuing to build settlements in the West Bank and Gaza, annexing Jerusalem and the Golan, and attacking Iraq, Syria, and Lebanon. Those reasons prompted Egypt to withdrew its ambassador from Tel Aviv and announced, in response to Egyptian public opinion, that it will not return him unless Israel ceases its violations of the treaty.

Finally, this is taking place at a time when Israeli officials accuse Egypt of violating the treaty.

Therefore, in the name of the dignity of Egypt and its people and of the Egyptian people's patriotism, we demand the immediate repeal of all those humiliating laws that incriminate anyone who criticizes or opposes the peace treaty with Israel and deprive him of his political and human rights, bearing in mind that the ruling NDP can deprive any Egyptian of his political rights, imprison him without making criminal charges, and confiscate his funds and properties through scores of laws besides those which are humiliating to Egypt and its people.

Armed Forces To Issue AD-DIFA Magazine 25 Apr

NC151430 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1250 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] Cairo, 15 Jan (MENA) — Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production, today attended the signing ceremony for the issuance of the Egyptian Armed Forces' first military magazine. The magazine which will be called *AD-DIFA* [The Defense], will be published in cooperation with the Al-Ahram Publishing House.

The contract was signed by Major General Farid Mutawalli, chairman of the Military Research Commission, and 'Abdallah 'Abd al-Bari, chairman of the board of directors of the Al Ahram Publishing House. A number of senior Army officers attended the ceremony.

The magazine's first issue will be distributed on 25 April, date of the Sinai liberation anniversary. Lieutenant General Ahmad Fakhr, director of Nasir Military Academy, has been appointed editor-in-chief of the magazine, which will be issued quarterly.

Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah emphasized the need for the magazine to focus on the military policies and the various aspects of military strategies, to reflect the Egyptian and Arab military strategic ideology, and to impartially tackle some of the problems facing Arab security.

Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah stressed the need for the magazine to also deal with the Arab military reality, international military trends, and the Egyptian military ideology, and to show an interest in weaponry throughout the world as well as that produced by the Egyptian defense industries.

'Abdallah 'Abd al-Bari, on his part, affirmed that the Al-AhramPublishing House has employed all its resources so that the magazine will enjoy the world's highest standards in terms of material, printing, and colors.

Daily on Israeli Exploitation of Economic Crisis

NC160848 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0525 GMT 16 Jan 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the heading: "The Dimensions of the Crisis," *AL-AHRAM says today: Israel is going through a crisis. This* is a known fact that even the Israelis themselves admit. The crisis — about which they talk and fight — is primarily regarded as an economic one. However, we may add that it is an unavoidable economic crisis.

AL-AHRAM points out that the situation in Israel has reached the point of the Labor Party and Histadrut being accused of plotting to topple Shamir's government because it has plunged the country into economic chaos. This shows how intensive the struggle is between the Israeli Government and the opposition. There is no doubt that the economic situation fairly represents the external and internal governmental policies.

AL-AHRAM adds that every economic crisis must result in an external policy with a lower profile if the country in question is behaving sensibly. However, countries that have illegitimate ambitions and are artificially boosting their image, tend to unload their economic crisis beyond their borders to save face internally on the one hand and to use the new conditions to rid themselves of some of their burdens.

Simply put, Israel's economic crisis resulted from its transgressions across its borders — for security or other reasons. What is still important is that the exacerbation of such a crisis can lead to an even more hideous external venture.

The paper concludes: This time we are not saying "beware Arabs," but "beware Israelis."

Armed Forces General Command Communique No 1,340
JN131752 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Communique No 1,340 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 13 January 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

With distinguished heroism Saddam's Al-Qadisiyah valiant soldiers are continuing their activities against the spiteful Iranian enemy forces. The results for yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. Our forward units pounded enemy positions and concentrations opposite our positions in the central operational sector with all types of weapons and managed to kill 19 soldiers and wound several others. Our forces destroyed one hardware stockpile, two infantry positions, and one weapons emplacement, killing its personnel. Elsewhere in the same sector, one of our forward units observed an enemy patrol which tried to approach our forward positions, pounded it with its various weapons, and forced it to flee.

2. Our forward units opened fire with various weapons at an enemy concentration opposite our positions east of Basra, killing one soldier, and damaging one vehicle and one observation post, killing their personnel.

3. One observation post was damaged in the northern operational sector.

4. The criminal and spiteful Iranian rulers today shelled Mandali and Khurmal and their environs with artillery, damaging a number of civilian installations.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 13 January 1984

Communique No 1,341
JN141656 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1612 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] Baghdad, 14 Jan (INA) — During the past 24 hours, the Iraqi forces killed eight Iranians and destroyed two hardware stockpiles and one infantry position. Communique No 1,341 issued here tonight said that Sayyid Sadiq and (Shandari) and their environs came under enemy artillery shelling today. A number of civilian buildings were damaged. The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 1,341 issued by the Armed Forces General Command:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Our daring Army units are continuing their brave operations at the front against the Iranian forces of aggression. The results for last night and today are as follows:

1. In the central sector of the front, one of our forward units pounded an enemy concentration opposite Iraqi positions killing six soldiers and destroying one infantry position.

2. In the northern sector of the front, one of our forward units sighted a group of enemy soldiers opposite our positions. Using artillery, our forces opened fire killing two and forcing the others to flee.

3. Our forward units in the area east of Basra used artillery to pound enemy targets opposite Iraqi positions. Our forces scored direct hits and destroyed two hardware stockpiles.

4. The rancorous enemy this morning shelled Sayyid Sadiq and (Shandari) and their environs with artillery damaging a number of civilian buildings.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 14 January 1984

Communique No 1,342
JN151710 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Communique No 1,342 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 15 January 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Our brave Armed Forces have continued their operations against the covetous Iranian enemy forces. The results for last night and today are as follows:

1. In the central sector of the front, one of our forward units pounded an enemy concentration opposite Iraqi positions. Two enemy soldiers were killed and one infantry position destroyed.

In another area of the same sector, our forward units used artillery to shell enemy positions opposite Iraqi units. One enemy infantry position was destroyed.

2. During their operations in the northern sector of the front, our combat patrol units found a number of serviceable weapons and military equipment in front of our forces' positions.

3. The Iranian clique of sin and aggression today shelled Khurmal with artillery, damaging a number of civilian buildings.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 15 January 1984

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'Izzat Ibrahim Leaves for Morocco 14 Jan
JN141250 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] RCC Vice Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim left Baghdad today for Morocco to head the Iraqi delegation to the Islamic summit that will begin work in Casablanca the day after tomorrow,

Monday.

He was seen off by Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister; Taha Muhyi ad-Din Ma'ruf, RCC member and vice president; and a number of RCC members.

The Iraqi delegation is comprised of Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; 'Ismat Kittani, senior under secretary of the Foreign Ministry; and a number of Iraqi officials.

AL-JUMHURIYAH Warns Iran Against New Aggression

JN152106 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0730 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] Baghdad, 15 Jan (INA) — The newspaper *AL-JUMHURIYAH* today warned the Iranian regime against launching a new aggression against Iraq. In an editorial today, the paper said that the defeat awaiting the Iranian rulers will lead to the downfall of the regime. The Iranian regime, the paper added, will not be able to stand the new defeat because it will have consequences that are more difficult than all the results of the previous aggressions.

AL-JUMHURIYAH said that Iraq is watching and monitoring the Iranian rulers' moves, and can read their minds like a book. The Iraqi Army has prepared a mass graveyard for their forces if they attempt to attack Iraq again.

King Husayn Delivers Speech From Throne

JN161114 Amman Television Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 16 Jan 84

[King Husayn's speech from the throne inaugurating ordinary session of Jordanian Parliament in Amman -- live]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Honorable senators, honorable representatives: In God's name and with His blessings we inaugurate this ordinary session of Parliament. Relying on Almighty God, we continue our blessed march for the sake of our sincere people toward the goals of our glorious nation.

We are proud of being affiliated with this nation, remembering its past glories, great martyrs, and adhering to our creed and identity which are Arab in origin and content. We pray to Almight God to steer our way and help us bear our responsibilities in building the homeland's resources and mobilizing the people's efforts and energies, enabling us, through the cooperation and support of our brothers in the great Arab homeland, to confront the threats of fragmentation, dismemberment, aggression, and loss, and allowing us to uphold our rights and liberate our land and holy shrines from occupation.

Honorable senators, honorable representatives, this ordinary session of your Parliament is being held following an extraordinary session during which you shouldered your national responsibility with awareness and integrity. You amended the Constitution with the aim of rectifying a situation which had been imposed by unavoidable circumstances and protecting a basic part of our constitutional life from the threat of paralysis had that situation continued to prevail. As you are aware, this part is our parliamentary life that embodies democracy and the spirit of genuine participation in which this country has believed since its founding and which it has always protected during the darkest and most difficult circumstances.

During the unavoidable circumstances which obstructed the path of parliamentary life, we did not hesistate to seek an interim formula for the principle of participation. This was represented in the National Consultative Council. When we adopted that formula, we affirmed that it would never be an alternative to the constitutional parliamentary institution. Parliamentary life is a foremost, essential pillar of our Constitution and a great landmark in our political structure. [applause]

As we resume our parliamentary life, we are returning to a natural situation which embodies the meaning of continuous participation. This situation evolved as a result of objective considerations which cannot be denied or ignored. It is a situation which was realized by our fathers and grandfathers and which stemmed from the sacred aim of unity among the Arab people. This situation crystallized our consensus on the joint march in the early 1950's without encrouching on any of the Palestinian people's rights after the liberation of their land. The proclamation of the unity of the West Bank and East Bank in April 1950 stipulated that all the Arab rights in Palestine will be preserved and will be rightly defended by all legitimate means, and that the final settlement of the just Arab cause will not be harmed and will be part of the pan- Arab aspirations, Arab cooperation, and international justice.

Honorable senators, honorable representatives, you are beginning your session while our Arab region is at a crossroads. Great events are overwhelming our nation from all directions. In view of our geographical position and Arab affiliation, we in Jordan are in the midst of these events, which double our responsibilites and duties, particularly at this stage in which we are working to strengthen our joint march.

In terms of our central cause that constitutes our primary concern and the core of our attention, we find the Palestinian land still under occupation. It is being exposed to Judaization, colonization, and gradual annexation. We have been and still are confronting these measures on various levels and with all the means available to us.

Dialogue, coordination, and cooperation with the PLO occupies a prominent part of our policy which stems from our joint conviction in one destiny and our belief in the unity of our interests, of the harm and threats facing us. My government will work determinedly to reach, together with the legitimate, free PLO, a practical formula for cooperation, with Arab support and blessing, in order to deliver the land and people. We earnestly hope that the PLO will reciprocate our sincere efforts to cyrstallize a practical formula that would enable all of us to carry out our responsibilities toward Jerusalem, Palestine, and their people with sincere efforts and intentions and with serious endeavors and work. [applause]

One of the first concerns of my government is the contribution toward establishing Arab solidarity sought by the sincere sons of our Arab nation, extricating joint Arab action from the state of paralysis from which it suffers, and giving it the necessary flexibility and ability to make decisions on the basis of a majority vote instead of remaining committed to a unanimous vote that can be difficult to achieve and gives one member of the Arab League the chance to hamper the decision of the majority. Many Arab League resolutions testify to this reality, whether on the level of the Palestinian cause, the Iraqi-Iranian war, the tragic crisis in Lebanon, or on the level of other Arab issues.

In regard to the Iraqi-Iranian war, my government will continue to stand by fraternal Iraq in its defense of its territory and rights and its sincere efforts to solve the dispute by peaceful means on the basis of right, neighborliness, and noninterference by either side in the other's internal affairs. The prolongation of this war will have serious repercussions which will pose a threat to security in our region, drag it toward world polarization and superpower intervention, besides the threat to the Arab identity in the entire Arab east.

The crisis in Lebanon receives our close attention because of the human tragedies, the destruction, the displacement, and damge from which no one has escaped, and the reality it is now experiencing with its local, Arab, and international complications as a result of the Israeli aggression and the occupation of large parts of its territory. The current state of affairs in Lebanon is a harbinger of the threats our region is facing in view of the aspects of partition, dismemberment, and polarization which serve only

Zionist schemes and the Arabs' enemies. From this premise, my government has supported and will continue to support every effort which will lead to the withdrawal of the Israeli invasion froces and all the foreign forces from Lebanon in order to guarantee the unity of its people and its sovereignty over its territory.

Honorable senators, honorable representatives, Israel's designs of expansion, the dismemberment and fragmentation which threaten Lebanon, and the fierce aggression and fanaticism which Iraq is facing can be confronted only through a unified and decisive Arab stand for which all potentials, forces, and efforts must be mobilized. In view of this reality, it is imperimissible for Egypt to remain outside the ranks of its nation. Egypt cannot do without its nation and its nation cannot do without Egypt.

In the field of foreign policy, my government will continue to build bridges to various world countries and forces whether on a bilateral level or within the framework of the United Nations, the Nonaligned Movement, or the Islamic world. It will continue dialogue with various international blocs with the purpose of winning their support and developing this support in the service of the Palestine cause and to put an end to the continued occupation and aggression against territory and people.

We will stress the importance of Arab coordination and planning in our work in the international arena. We hope that Arab policy in this sphere will be conducted on the basis of mutual interests, and not just in accordance with principles and values, so long as we are living in a world that acts and interacts only within the framework of the inter-dependence of its nations and peoples.

Honorable senators, honorable representatives, in the field of domestic policy, my government will devote its utmost care and attention to the Jordanian Armed Forces, the shield of the homeland, the defenders of the flag, and the protectors of our independence and honor. Every effort will be made to prepare our Arab Mustafawite [related to Prophet Muhammad] Army [applause] and to providing it with the modern weapons and equipment it needs to carry out its national and pan-Arab role, maintain its development, and attain the strength and high standard of preparation and training to which it aspires. This is in addition to its renowned characteristics of ethical values, chivalry, sacrifice, discipline, obedience, and pride which it has inherited from its genuine Arab upbringing.

Despite all the financial difficulties facing us that curb our ambitions, the formation of the Popular Army will be one of our main priorities in order to build our strength and might. The objective of building this Army as a support for our Armed Forces will continue to be a pressing issue because it is a living expression of every citizen's readiness to sacrifice for the sake of protecting the homeland and defending its rights and honor.

My government will also continue to implement the 5-year plan despite the difficult financial circumstances Jordan faces for various reasons, including the world economic recession which has reflected on us. The government will concentrate its efforts on continuing to exploit our natural resources, especially prospecting for sources of energy and carrying out production projects which will ensure additional income for our country and provide our sons with more job opportunities. In its implementation of this development program, the government will ensure a balance between economic and social development so as to embody the principle of equality and justice.

In the agricultural field, we have every right to be proud of our Jordanian farmer who, during the last decade, has made tangible progress in developing his agricultural methods and achieving higher rates of production. But the fluctuation in prices which he faces in many seasons calls for measures needed to reorganize the process of production and marketing. The government will continue its effort to achieve these through coordination and cooperation among all those concerned in the agricultural field.

Since, by our standards, man is the most precious thing we possess — because he represents a supreme value we are determined to preserve — the best trained and prepared citizen was and will always be the backbone of our country's wealth and its tool to build and protect the homeland. My government will continue its efforts to develop educational programs with a view to keeping pace with scientific progress and entrenching the cultural identity of our Arab, Islamic society in conformity with the requirements of development and the demands of ever-changing life such as the necessary technical and vocational expertise. My government will continue its efforts to organize manpower with the aim of ensuring a balanced distribution of the various skills needed by society in its determined move toward progress and construction. My government will also devote attention to cultural and sports activities that will enhance the creative talents of our youth and deepen their national pride. My government will work toward entrenching general discipline and collective cooperation and developing the spirit of good citizenship.

Honorable senators, honorable representatives, as your Parliament begins to assume its national and pan-Arab duties, we find it our duty to address ourselves to our steadfast kinfolk on the soil of the prophet's nocturnal journey to heaven and to send them our greetings and pride for their steadfastness and their resistance to occupation and its practices. We are certain that, no matter how long they suffer, the occupation will end, the land iwll be liberated, and the Palestinian Arab people will return to their homeland [applause] and will exercise their right of self-determination in their homeland. This is the logic of history and the path of justice in our existence. No change wilt thou find in God's way. [Koranic verse]

God has willed that the nation's representatives from Jerusalem and the land which God has blessed should hold their ordinary session on the same day the leaders of the Islamic states begin their blessed conference in fraternal Morocco to discuss the affairs and issues of the Muslims, headed by Jerusalem and its captured Al-Aqsa Mosque, which is crying for help. It is a good opportunity for us to address ourselves from this blessed spot to our brothers who are meeting there and to ask them to devote the utmost care and attention to the cause of Jerusalem. Let their hearts and eyes be directed to Jerusalem so that one day they may start their journey toward it. May God Almighty grant us success.

Honorable senators, honorable representatives, as we inaugurate this session of your esteemed Parliament, we are certain that you will genuinely evaluate your sacred responsibility, take blessed steps, and effect fruitful cooperation between the legislative and executive powers. This will be echoed by our one Jordanian family which will exert further efforts and offer sacrifices in order to reach with our dear Jordan our cherished goals so as to realize Jordan's glory and the aims of the Arab nation.

We pray God to steer our steps along the path of right. May God's peace and blessings be upon you.

King Recovers, Leaves Hospital 16 Jan

JN160835 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 16 Jan 84

[Text] The Royal Hashemite Court has issued the following statement: The Royal Hashemite Court is pleased to announce to the loyal Jordanian citizens that His Majesty King Husayn, leader of the homeland and custodian of the blessed Jordanian march, left the medical center this morning protected by God's care and guidance after Almighty God blessed him with recovery and good health.

On this happy occasion, the Royal Hashemite Court extends thanks and appreciation to all the sons of the one Jordanian family for their genuine feelings, sincere fealty and loyalty, and deep affiliation with the leader of our victorious march and the national principles of this march. May God save the king and direct his steps toward benevolence and pride.

Husayn Receives UK, Egyptian Visitors 14 Jan

JN141734 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received at King Husayn Medical Center this afternoon the chairman of the British Joint Chiefs of Staff in the presence of Staff Lieutenant General ash-Sharif Zaydi ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces, and the British ambassador in Amman.

His majesty the king also received Mustafa as-Sa'id, Egypt's minister of economy and foreign trade, in the presence of Nabil Badr, head of the Egyptian interests office in Jordan. They congratulated his majesty on his recovery and wished him good health and happiness as he leads the Jordanian people toward national and pan-Arab objectives. His Majesty King Husayn expressed his thanks and appreciation for their sincere feelings.

New Cabinet To Improve Relations With Syria

GF131420 Kuwait AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 12 Jan 84 pp 1, 33

[Dispatch from Amman by *AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM* correspon-dent 'Abdallah al-Qaq]

[Excerpts] A senior Jordanian source who preferred to remain anonymous said that the new Jordanian Cabinet headed by Ahmad 'Ubaydat will work for the improvement of Syrian-Jordanian relations, for overcoming the Jordanian-Syrian disagreement, and for the achievement of a fraternal and amicable platform and atmosphere between both countries as this is considered one of the priorities of the new Cabinet.

The senior source added that no matter how great the disputes between Jordan and Syria, they will not reach the stage of confrontation or a declaration of war. He also said that Syria has its special circumstances regarding the current Arab situation.

Asked about PLO Chairman 'Arafat's visit to Jordan, he explained that his visit is inevitable and is about to take place but after the Islamic summit conference that will be held in Rabat next week. He also said that King Husayn will receive 'Arafat in order to hold serious and practical talks with him to change the situation in the Middle East. He also stressed that the Palestinian leadership, and foremost 'Arafat himself, had prior knowledge of the Jordanian step a long time ago. There was agreement on this m a t t e r .

Minister of Court on Palestinian Question, Egypt

GF141008 Doha QNA in Arabic 0920 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] Kuwait, 14 Jan (QNA) — 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, Jordanian minister of court, has said that the present time is not favorable for holding negotiations on the Palestinian question. He said that this matter requires hard and serious work based on understanding between Jordan and the PLO and on total Arab cooperation.

In a statement published in the Kuwaiti paper *AL-QABAS* today, the Jordanian minister said that the recent measures adopted in Jordan on the return of parliamentary life will not infringe on the resolutions of the 1974 Rabat Arab summit conference. These resolutions state that the PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

In his statement the Jordanian minister said that Jordan is in constant touch with Egypt on the Arab question. He asserted that Jordan welcomes any Arab step to bring Egypt back to the Arab fold.

Al-Wazir Arrives, Comments on PLO Affairs

JN150853 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 15 Jan 84 pp 1, 23

[Muhammad Abu Ghawsh dispatch]

[Text] Amman — Khalil al-Wazir, alias Abu Jihad, deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces and member of the Palestinian side to the joint Jordanian-Palestinian committee in support of the Palestinian people's steadfastness in the occupied homeland, arrived in Amman last night.

PLO Executive Committee members, Palestine Liberation Army commanders, PLO office members, and officials from the department responsible for the families of martyrs and for social affairs received the Palestinian official.

In a special statement to *AD-DUSTUR*, Abu Jihad said: I am happy to be among our kinfolk in Jordan especially after the difficult and tough conditions the Palestinian revolution had faced. The conspiracy against the PLO's unity and strength was also aimed at independent Palestinian decisionmaking.

Abu Jihad said: Our Palestinian masses both inside and outside the occupied territories expressed their continued determination and stubborn defense of the PLO under its legitimate leadership as the sole legitimate representative of this people's will. He added: This rallying around the PLO and its legitimate leadership was the source of our strengthy, an expression of PLO's sound march, and an assertion of its unity. He noted that the Palestinian leadership was exerting efforts to maintain and strengthen this unity through its legitimate institutions.

Abu Jihad continued: I would like to assure our people and kinfolk in Jordan and the occupied territories that the PLO will continue the march with the strength of our people's will. The PLO is determined to continue its struggle in the military, political, and tactical spheres in order to strengthen the march of our people's struggle to achieve its objective — the establishment of an independent Palestinian state.

This is the the Palestinian official's first visit to Jordan since the Syrian regime banned him from entering Syrian territory. The Syrian decision was part of the scheme aimed at forcing the Palestinian forces to leave the central and northern areas of Lebanon.

Egypt's Economy Minister Arrives 13 Jan

JN140839 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 14 Jan 84 pp 1, 22

[Excerpt] Amman — *AR-RA'Y* — Dr Mustafa as-Sa'id, Egyptian minister of economy and foreign trade, arrived in Amman yesterday. In a statement to *AR-RA'Y*, Dr as-Sa'id said that during his 3-day visit to Jordan he will participate in a symposium on international currency developments and Arab currency cooperation that was arranged by the Jordanian Central Bank and which will begin today.

Dr as-Sa'id said: I am participating in this conference in a personal capacity, and I am happy to say that this is my second visit to Jordan within 1 month.

Dr as-Sa'id added that the symposium will discuss an important issue — Arab currency — in light of international currency developments. He said that Egypt's participation in this conference asserts Egypt's concern for Arab solidarity and for holding consultations with brothers in the Arab world on important issues.

The Egyptian minister stated that he will meet with his Jordanian counterpart, Dr Jawad al-'Anani, within the framework of strengthening cooperation in the economic and trade spheres as stipulated in the agreement signed by the two sides last month.

'Ubaydat Confers With Visiting PRC Delegation

JN141536 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1440 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] Amman, 14 Jan (PETRA) — Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat has said that Jordan appreciates the PRC's firm and obvious position toward the Palestinian people's rights and hopes for cooperation wth all countries that understand the real meaning of peace to find a just and lasting solution to the Middle East problem, put an end to the Israeli aggression on the Arab land, and confirm the Arab people's rights in their land and homeland. During his reception of the PRC National People's Congress delegation in his office this morning, the prime minister also referred to His Majesty King Husayn's visit to the PRC and its effect on relations between the two countries. He said: We view the PRC as a friendly country and as a superpower in this world and we are looking forward to the PRC president's forthcoming visit to the Kingdom.

The prime minister also touched on the existing good relations between the two friendly countries, stressing the need to continue dialogue and consultations to promote and develop these relations in various fields. He also expressed his hope that the PRC delegation's visit to Jordan will expand cooperation and strengthen ties of friendship between the two countries.

Wang Renzhong, vice chairman of the National People's Congress Standing Committee and head of the delegation, also spoke and expressed his thanks and appreciation to Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat. He praised Jordan's accomplishments in the economic, educational, and construction fields. He said that the PRC president's forthcoming visit to Jordan will help to strengthen PRC-Jordanian relations, stressign his country's firm and lasting position in supporting the Palestinian Arab people's struggle against Israel's aggressive policy. He also expressed his wishes of good health and happiness to His Majesty King Husayn, and invited the prime minister to visit the PRC.

Delegation Departs 15 Jan

JN151156 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] Amman — The PRC National People's Congress delegation left Amman today after a visit of several days to Jordan. During the visit, the PRC delegation held talks with the prime minister and the president of the Senate about issues of mutual interest and the elatest developments in the Arab arena. The PRC delegation visited a number of economic projects and historical sites and was acquainted with Jordan's important achievement sin various spheres.

In a predeparture statement to the PETRA correspondent at the Queen 'Alya' International Airport, Wang Renzhong, vice-chairman of the National People's Congress standing committee and head of the delegation, asserted the support of PRC — government and people — for the Palestinian people's just rights, including their right to self-determination.

British Chief of Staff Arrives, Makes Statement

JN142101 Amman Television Service in English 2000 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] The Chairman of the British Joint Chiefs of Staff, Sir Edwin Bramall, who arrived today in Amman for a visit lasting a few days at the invitation of the Army's commander in chief, Lieutenant General ash-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, said that his talks in Amman would focus on matters of mutual interest.

[Begin Bramall recording] As the guest of the next few days of the commander in chief, Lieutenant General ash-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, Jordan and Britain have many military ties which date back over the years to the days of the Arab revolution and the Ash-Sharif Husayn ibn 'Ali, great grandfather of His Majesty King Husayn. I particularly look forward to seeing and learning about your country which I, in common with all my countrymen, admire so much and finding out how you created this Hashemite Kingdom, this land of reason, tolerance, democracy, peace, and prosperity for the center of such a very troubled part of the world.

I hope during my talks with the commander in chief and his officers to strengthen the close bonds of friendship which already exist between the Jordan Armed Forces and the British Armed Forces, which of course I am very proud to head. And I'd like during the visit to discuss our mutual interests and those areas where Britain can best provide assistance in training and indeed in whatever other forms of military cooperation seem desirable to you in Jordan. I know also that there are very many areas where we can learn from you and benefit from your very considerable experience. We therefore, General, have a great deal to talk about. I am very sorry to hear of his majesty's indisposition, but I wish him a very speedy recovery. Thank you very much.

Commander in Chief Meets Delegation

JN151142 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] Amman — Staff Lieutenant General ash-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces, received at his office at the General Headquarters today Sir Edwin Bramall, chairman of the British Joint Chiefs of Staff, and his military delegation.

At the end of the meeting, the commander in chief and Sir Edwin exchanged gifts.

High-ranking Army officers and the British ambassador in Amman attended the meeting.

U.S. Official Concludes Visit, Departs 14 Jan

JN151032 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 0930 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] Amman, 15 Jan (PETRA) — Gregory Newell, U.S. assistant secretary of stae for international affairs, left Amman last night after a 2-day visit to Jordan during which he met with a number of Jordanian officials. Several Foreign Ministry officials saw the U.S. official off at Queen 'Alya' International Airport.

AD-DUSTUR Warns of Attempts To Divide Lebanon

JN140804 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 14 Jan 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "In Order Not To Be Divided," *AD-DUSTUR* says: The deterioration of the security situation in Lebanon reveals the difficult crisis in which various parties are involved and indicates the failure of international and regional forces to achieve conditions that would clear the way for real opportunities for peace. While the Lebanese people wait for the implementation of the security plan that was recently circulated, the security situation is deteriorating in all the traditional fighting positions. Various parties, including the U.S. Marines and some of the Multinational Force, are participating and have become involved with the conflicting factions and political parties in Lebanon. It is not a coincidence that the deterioration of the security situation in Beirut and the suburbs occurred while the U.S. presidential envoy was holding his talks in Damascus, especially since the Lebanese crisis was the primary topic of discussion between both parties who are also deeply involved in this crisis.

AD-DUSTUR continues: Resorting to force and a deteriorating military situation are traditional ways used by one or another party to improve negotiating conditions and bargaining strength and to dictate viewpoints contrary to other viewpoints. This explains the connection between resorting to force and the escalation of political efforts to achieve an acceptable solution or settlement. *AD-DUSTUR* concludes: The Lebanese war has entered a complicated stage which may divide Lebanon and entrench this division. Hence, the Lebanese people must resort to the spirit of moderation and wisdom and strongly adhere to their country's higher interest, because this is the only way to prevent all attempts aimed at dividing Lebanon and satsify various regional forces at the expense of Lebanon's territory, existence, and independence.

Lebanese, Syrian, Saudi Ministers To Meet 15 Jan

JN150620 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] The Lebanese, Syrian, and Saudi foreign ministers will meet today in Rabat to continue their discussions of the security plan and the resumption of the Lebanese National Dialogue Conference.

Al-Wazzan, Salim Leave for Islamic Summit

NC150848 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0732 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan left Beirut for Rabat at 0920 this morning to head the Lebanese delegation to the Islamic summit conference. He is accompanied by Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan spoke at Beirut Airport to our representative Darwish 'Ammar who reports:

[Begin recording] ['Ammar] The special government plane carrying Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan and Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim took off at 0920 this morning for Rabat. They will participate in the Islamic summit conference to be held there.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan arrived at the airport and immediately went to the plane amidst very strict security measures. We entered the plane and obtained the following statement from the prime minister:

[Al-Wazzan] Our motto has always been continuous action to serve and save the homeland. We seize every occasion, opportunity, and platform to bring our Lebanese question to the world's attention and insist that the world should apply sound principles — those of the United Nations and those of right and justice. We desperately need to apply these principles at this stage, and to realize our aspirations of liberating our territory from the Israeli occupation and restoring our sovereignty over our Lebanese soil. On that basis, we shall assiduously seek, during our forthcoming meeting with the Islamic states, to achieve our goal of gaining the support of all for Lebanon in its salvation march.

['Ammar] Will you hold peripheral meetings to discuss the Lebanese issue at this Islamic, Arab, and international forum?

[Al-Wazzan] Certainly. This aspect of the visit is perhaps no less important than the conference itself.

['Ammar] Prime Minister al-Wazzan is accompanied by his wife, Wajihah al-Wazzan. Minister Salim is accompanied by his private secretary Elysse 'Alam. [end recording]

AL-LIWA' Interviews Al-Wazzan on Developments

NC151913 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan has stressed that the comprehensive security plan for Beirut, the mountain, and the Al-Kharrub region is the door to a political solution of Lebanon's crisis within the framework of the Geneva conference.

In an interview to be published Monday in the newspaper *AL-LIWA'*, Al-Wazzan said the regime has no intention of forcibly imposing the security plan or entering the areas of armed men. He outlined that the Lebanese state has not decided on pursuing the military course nor has it despaired of the possibility of coming to an understanding with the parties concerned regarding the security plan.

Answering the newspaper's questions, Al-Wazzan wondered how anyone could question Lebanon's failure to attend a recent Damascus meeting, as it has been seeking the approval of the security plan in various capitals, noting that a misunderstanding took place in respect of the recent Damascus meeting attended by Amal Movement leader lawyer Nabih Birri, Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt, Saudi mediator Rafiq al-Hariri, and Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam.

Al-Wazzan said the cease-fire agreed upon on 25 September was a blessing for the Lebanese people. He praised the efforts of Saudi ruler King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz who has constantly intervened to reach a solution for stability in Lebanon. He said Lebanon will demand that the Islamic summit meeting on Monday in Casablanca implement the Arab and Islamic resolutions regarding Lebanon.

Regarding Lebanese-Syrian relations, Al-Wazzan regarded the 17 May agreement as having a negative effect, noting that the Syrian stance is more understanding of the Lebanese situation.

Al-Wazzan criticized Israel's withdrawal from the mountain areas without coordinating with Lebanese authorities. He affirmed that Lebanon will not ratify the 17 May agreement and will not sign it. He noted that the agreement remains an incomplete plan and subsequently has no international status. The agreement is virtually frozen now. He rejected Israel's attempt to link the implementation of its withdrawal with a Syrian and Palestinian pullout.

Al-Wazzan said Israel's behavior in southern Lebanon might lead Lebanon to seriously consider abolishing the agreement in the future.

Further on Interview

NC152139 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Excerpts] Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan has warned against Israeli viciousness, saying Israel is planning something in the south, which it will disguise behind an unexpected partial withdrawal in the area.

Al-Wazzan noted that U.S. credibility is being put to the test and that if the United States does not ensure Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon the Arabs will be hit with a great tragedy. He said the strategic pact between the United States and Israel is harmful to the Arabs and Lebanon.

Al-Wazzan warned that the beginning of Lebanon's partition is the beginning of the Arab world's partition, particularly as the partition plot against Lebanon is continuing and world personages with pro-Israeli leanings, such as Henry Kissinger and Dean Brown, are advocating Lebanon's partition.

He said the most important result of President Amin al-Jumayyil's move on the Arab and international levels is that the Lebanese people have realized that the regime's power is reflected in its authority and army, noting that the application of national service has made the Lebanese Army acceptable to everyone.

Al-Wazzan noted that Lebanon had succeeded in mobilizing the Western states to defend the principles of freedom by supporting the Lebanese question.

Al-Wazzan revealed to *AL-LIWA'* that a day before the mountain battle he insisted that Army Commander General Ibrahim Tannus occupy the Phalangist War Council premises in the Al-Karantina area in Beirut. He said he had tendered his resignation to President Amin al-Jumayyil four or five times during their private meetings at the Presidential Palace.

The prime minister called on Islamic leaders to hold daily or weekly meetings to draw up what is necessary. He expressed the readiness to abide by their resolutions.

Al-Wazzan defended the legislative decrees against the criticism leveled and said: We have not issued any legislative decree without the approval of the state's Consultative Council. He expressed pride in the decrees as an important legislative accomplishment. He emphasized that he approved of the decrees he had signed.

PSP Statement Rejects Lebanese Security Plan

JN142036 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 2000 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] The Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] has expressed its rejection of the security plan for the mountain and Beirut.

In a statement issued today, the party considers the plan a political trap, adding that it rejects any deployment of the Lebanese Army before a political reconciliation is realized among the warring parties in Lebanon and before the Army's tasks are defined, and its command reorganized.

The statement said the security plan, which aims to strengthen the cease-fire in Beirut and mountain, is a desperate attempt to save the Lebanese Front forces following their defeat last September in the mountain.

It said the security plan is an attempt by the state to [word indistinct] the cherished political reforms. The party called for settling the security problem through a political solution that would ensure the return of the Lebanese Army to its barracks.

Reportage on Rumsfeld's Lebanon Talks

Meets Birri 15 Jan

NC152014 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] U.S. envoy Donald Rumsfeld, who arrived in Beirut this afternoon from Israel, met for 2 and 1/4 hours with Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri in the presence of the U.S. Embassy's first secretary. The meeting began at 1830 and ended at 2045. The talks dealt with the security plan and the factors that prevented its implementation.

No 'Decisive' Results Achieved

NC160634 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 16 Jan 84

[Text] Donald Rumsfeld returned to Beirut yesterday in an attempt to reinvigorate the security plan. Rumsfeld met with Amal Movement leader lawyer Nabih Birri in the presence of U.S. Ambassador Reginald Bartholomew and embassy first secretary (David Wayne). However, the meeting did not achieve decisive results and the question of the plan remained suspended. A major part of the discussions revolved around the question of the south and the Israeli occupation. The Amal leader believes that U.S. aid to and support for Israel has resulted in Israel's continued occupation of the south and inhuman actions against the citizens in their various communities. He said a solution lies in the United States compelling Israel to unconditionally withdraw from the south and without this being simultaneous with a Syrian withdrawal.

Discussions on the security plan and Israel's withdrawal from the south led to a discussion of the second round of National Dialogue talks and the 17 May agreement. Birri told the U.S. envoy that implementation of the security plan will definitely lead to a second Geneva conference which will deal with the 17 May agreement. Birri said after the meeting that the discussions dealt with the security plan and all political issues.

Rumsfeld is expected to meet today with several Lebanese officials.

Official sources have explained that Rumsfeld's visit to Beirut yesterday was unexpected because he was scheduled to make a new tour of some Arab capitals but it appears that he cut his tour following yesterday's security developments that necessitated intervention by the Marines and U.S. warships.

Meets Al-Jumayyil 16 Jan

NC161026 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 16 Jan 84

[Text] President of the Republic Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil this morning met for 3 hours with U.S. envoy Donald Rumsfeld, with the U.S. ambassador in Beirut also attending. The discussions focused on the various aspects of the current situation. The U.S. envoy declined to make any statements upon leaving B'abda Palace.

THE DAILY STAR Views Reagan's 'Dilemma'

NC131027 Beirut THE DAILY STAR in English 11 Jan 84 p 6

[Unatributed article: "Catch 22"]

[Text] The Reagan administration soon will have to deal with the rising clamor in Washington about U.S. policy in Lebanon, particularly the presence of the Marines in Beirut. Come late January, when the Congress reconvenes, President Reagan will have to make some hard decisions.

A large part of Mr Reagan's dilemma of what to do about Lebanon stems from a clear contradiction built in American policy. It is the result of trying to achieve two incompatible objectives at the same time: Rescuing Lebanon and satisfying the demands of Israel's complex strategies, euphemistically called "safeguarding Israel's security interests."

It's obvious by now that the Lebanese-Israeli May 17 agreement on troop withdrawal, which Mr Reagan thought would insure Israel's security demands, has become a major obstacle in the way of Lebanese national reconciliation, the starting point for a peace process in Lebanon. The dismal results of the meeting in Riyadh on Sunday of the foreign ministers of Lebanon, Syria, and Saudi Arabia was only the latest proof of that. The United States, in fact, should have realized much earlier, during the first round of the Lebanese National Reconciliation Conference that the May 17 accord was a no go.

And yet, when President al-Jumayyil, fresh from that conference, visited Washington, he was told firmly that the United States fully supported Israel's insistence on implementation of the accord in all its parts. At the same time, Mr al-Jumayyil was just as firmly advised to do his best to bring Lebanon's fractious parties together. In other words, a catch 22.

The trouble with the May 17 agreement is the U.S.-Israeli side letter, which did not involve the Lebanese Government, linking Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon to that of Syrian and Palestinian forces. Since Syria indignantly rejects any such linkage between its troops, in Lebanon under the mandate of the Arab League, and Israeli forces, which invaded Lebanon and remained as occupiers, the May 17 agreement has lost all value except to guarantee that Israeli and Syrian forces will remain in Lebanon.

And so long as Lebanon remains occupied, it cannot even begin to seek solutions for the many problems created by nine years of war, which means that the contending factions and their militias will continue to shoot at each other and at the Lebanese Army. And it further means that President al-Jumayyil's best efforts to save the country may come to naught. So when Mr Reagan comes to take a long, hard look at the results of his efforts in Lebanon, he ought seriously consider doing something about that side letter. He should try to get the Israelis to leave Lebanon without demanding a simultaneous withdrawal of Syrian forces. That should not be too difficult, because of the strong alliance Mr Reagan forged with Israel recently — he could call in some IOU's there — and because the Israeli military, in the person of the chief of staff, now believes that Israel could leave Lebanon even if the Syrians stay.

If the United States could elicit an Israeli withdrawal timetable, then the Lebanese Government could engage Syria in fruitful talks about the pullout of its forces and of the Palestinian irregulars still in Lebanon. Simultaneously, Mr al-Jumayyil could start on national reconciliation with a lot more going for him than is now the case. With Lebanon on its way to peace, Mr Reagan could begin to take the Marines out.

Beyond Lebanon, the Palestinian issue is again demanding attention, especially now that it appears certain that Palestinian Liberation Organization chairman 'Arafat and Jordan's King Husayn will seek a unified negotiating position over the occupied West Bank and Gaza. If Mr Reagan makes the right moves on Lebanon, he could turn to the thorny Palestinian-Israeli issue and claim, as he starts his re-election campaign, that his Middle East peace plan is still truly alive. But to get there, he has to pass through a peaceful Lebanon first.

VOH Announces Death of Sa'd Haddad 14 Jan

JN141721 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in English 1711 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] Major Sa'd Haddad, leader of free Lebanon, passed away at his home shortly before 7 o'clock this evening. Repeating, Maj Sa'd Haddad, leader of free Lebanon passed away at his home in Marj 'Uyun here in free Lebanon shortly before 7 pm this evening.

Free Army Statement on Funeral

JN150823 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 0600 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] The free Lebanon army command has issued the following statement:

The free Lebanon army command announces to the Lebanese people the death of its brave leader Major Sa'd Haddad, leader of free Lebanon, who passed away at 1700 on Saturday, 14 January 1984, after years of struggle for the sake of Lebanon's freedom and people, and declares the following measures:

I. Official mourning will be declared throughout free Lebanon for 7 days as of this statement's date; flags will be hung at half-mast at all free Lebanon army barracks and official circles.

II. Official circles, schools, and colleges will have a holiday on Monday, 16 January 1984.

III. Burial ceremonies will be as follows:

a. At 1030 today, the body of the deceased will be moved from his home to the Marj Youth Club Hall in Marj 'Uyun where it will shown until Monday morning so that all citizens may have a last look. The family of the deceased and the free Lebanon army command will receive condolences at the Marj Youth Club.

b. The funeral procession will move from the Khayrallah Salamih barracks in Marj 'Uyun at 1100 on Monday, 16 January 1984, to the Greek Catholic St Peter's Church in Marj 'Uyun where the funeral prayer will be performed for the peace of his soul. The body of the deceased will then be buried at the family cemetery.

c. The funeral procession will be arranged as follows:

1. The carriers of the garlands.

2. The musical band.

3. The clergymen.

4. The carriers of the medals.

5. The coffin wrapped by the Lebanese flag and carried on a caisson

6. The family of the deceased and official personalities.

7. The public.

d. As the body is buried, a 21-gun salute will be fired.

[Signed] The free Lebanon army command, Marj 'Uyun on 14 January 1984.

Col Khalil To Replace Haddad

JN150635 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in English 0550 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] Reports from Beirut and Jerusalem say that the new commander of Lebanese forces in the south will be Colonel Ilyas Khalil. Khalil is from the village of (Kadushiyah) near Sidon and is known as a Christian. Khalil served with Major Haddad in the Lebanese Army.

Army Denies Khalil Appointment

NC151710 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1656 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] A military source has stated the following:

Some media have reported that Staff Colonel Ilyas Khalil has been appointed the successor to Major Sa'd Haddad. The Army command totally denies those reports and confirms that Staff Col Khalil is an officer in the Lebanese Army and is presently charged with the command of the Arzun sector. He is working in cooperation with the UN forces. Khalil has absolutely no connection with the border militia.

Volunteers Called To Units

JN141146 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 1100 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] The free Lebanon army command issued the following statement:

All individuals who volunteered for the free Lebanon army as of 1 December 1983 should report to the Khayrallah barracks on Monday, 16 January 1984 in order to be enlisted in the Army's units.

[Signed] The free Lebanon army command

Continuing Reportage on Security Situation

Iranians Prepare More Attacks

NC132140 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2115 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Text] Our Al-Biqa' correspondent has reported that the Iranians and the Hezbollah Group in Ba'labakk are preparing to send booby-trapped cars to certain areas of Beirut to bring more terrorism.

He added that the so-called Arab Army of Lebanon is disintegrating and suffering from financial difficulties to the extent that its fugitive leader cannot finance its elements.

Security Committee Discusses Situation

NC141754 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1657 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] Calm has prevailed on the fighting axes in the 'Alayh area since 1830 today. A security source reported that three Army soldiers were wounded this afternoon. The security situation had deteriorated at 1600 today when Army positions in the 'Ayn Ksur and Radio Orient areas came under artillery and small arms fire, and clashes with medium- and heavy-caliber weapons took place. The clashes then extended to the Army positions at the Science College at 1700. At 1725, clashes took place on the 'Arayya, Dahr al-Wahsh, 'Alayh, Al-'Abbadiyah, and Dahr al-'Abbadiyah axes. The clashes resulted in the Jumhur Electricity Company perimeter receiving artillery fire from Duhur 'Alayh.

Staff Colonel Jean Nasif, the Army's representative on the Security Arrangements Committee, intensified his contacts today with all of the committee's members and discussed the security situation and the circumstances that surrounded its deterioration in the past 2 days. The contacts were characterized by objectivity and agreement on the need to bring the security situation under control so as to restore calm and normalcy to all areas. The contacts among the committee members will continue over the weekend to tackle any security deterioration. The Security Arrangements Committee will hold its next meeting at 1100 on Monday.

Explosion at PLO Building

NC151821 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1814 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] A security source informed us that an explosion took place 5 minutes ago on the first floor of the PLO building on Corniche al-Mazra'ah in Beirut. According to initial reports, a policeman was wounded.

Army, Gunmen Clash in Mountain

NC160854 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0845 GMT 16 Jan 84

[Text] Fierce clashes are now raging between the Lebanese Army and Junblattist gunmen on the 'Aramun Heights-Ash-Shuwayfat and Qabr Shmun-Al-Fasqin axes.

Rockets Hit Mountain Town

NC160924 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0904 GMT 16 Jan 84

[Text] We have just received a report from a security source that five rockets fell on the town of Rumayh [in the mountain] at 1055. The extent of losses is not yet known.

Beirut Shelling Casualties

NC160938 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 16 Jan 84

[Text] Contacts are taking place on various levels to put an end to the security situation that erupted suddenly this morning as a result of indiscriminate shelling of peaceful areas which claimed innocent victims and caused property losses. The indiscriminate shelling began at approximately 0900. Two shells fell near the Palace of Justice, wounding three persons. Four shells then fell on the Corniche an-Nahr area; one shell fell near the museum and another near the Zahrat al-Ihsan School, killing two persons and wounding seven others. One shell then fell near Burj Rizq.

Meanwhile, no incidents worth mentioning have taken place on the axes in the al-Kharrub region and the mountain, according to security sources.

Security Committee Meets 16 Jan

NC161132 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 16 Jan 84

[Text] The areas of Al-Hazimiyah, the television building, Al-Yarzi, 'Ayn 'Alaq, Al-Fayyadiayh, and Ad-Dikwanah are now being subjected to artillery shelling.

Explosions are being heard throughout the eastern suburb of the capital. A Lebanese soldier was hit in Al-Hazimiyah. Three shells fell a few minutes ago on Karm az-Zaytun, leaving one citizen wounded.

In another development, the Security Arrangements Committee, with all members attending, is currently discussing the serious security setback and shelling of the innocent residential areas.

Syrians, 'Cubans' Supervise Positions

NC161244 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 16 Jan 84

[Text] The Voice of Lebanon has learned that troop and vehicular movements have been observed on some mountain axes. Soviet-made T-54 tanks have also been observed leaving Shimlan, Baysur, Ru'aysat An-Nu'man, 'Ayn 'Nub, and Al-Ma'rufiyah toward Suq al-Gharb. The Voice of Lebanon also learned that Cuban [as heard] and Syrian experts are supervising some positions on the combat lines.

Reportage on Shelling of Marines' Position

Airport Traffic Suspended

NC151510 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1503 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] It has just been reported that air traffic at Beirut International Airport was halted a short while ago when a Middle East Airline plane came under heavy-caliber weapons fire. The plane received a direct hit 5 minutes ago. Airport employees sought shelter in lower floors of the airport.

U.S. Warships Shelling Mountain

NC151544 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1522 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Excerpt] U.S. warships anchored off the Lebanese coast are shelling gunmen's positions in the mountain after the Marines' positions in Beirut's southern suburb and in the airport's perimeter came under direct fire.

Marine Fuel Depot Hit

NC151611 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1542 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Telephone interview with Middle East Airlines Chairman Salim Salam — live]

[Text] [Unidentified reporter] Hello Mr Salam. It was reported that a Middle East Airline plane has been hit.

[Salam] The fact is that although there is heavy gunfire on the runway and shelling around the airport, we thank God that there were no casualties and no planes were hit. A fuel depot belonging to the Marines is reportedly ablaze.

[Reporter] Thus the mistake is that some thought the depot was a plane.

[Salam] It seems so. Thank God the reservoir is far from the

airport, and not near the runways. They must have thought it was a plane because they saw the flames from far away.

[Reporter] Then no planes were hit.

[Salam] No, thank God. We only have two planes here; the rest have been diverted to Cyprus.

[Reporter] Mr Salam, is the airport closed now?

[Salam] Yes, air traffic has been suspended.

[Reporter] For how long?

[Salam] it depends on the situation. As you know, our brothers get excited and then relax. The planes bound for the Gulf have been suspended and those coming from Europe have been diverted to Cyprus. We hope that if the situation eases within 1 hour the flights will resume; otherwise, they will be delayed until tomorrow.

[Reporter] It is good that you have reassured us. We, in turn, have assured the listeners that no plane was hit and that the airport will be closed for a short time until the sniper fire ends. There is no shelling on the airport.

[Salam] No shelling.

[Reporter] Thank you.

Airport Clashes Cease

NC151727 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1640 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] A security source reported a short while ago that the clashes on the airport perimeter ceased at 1810. Sniper fire is now reported in the Al-Murayjah, Hay as-Sullum, and Science College areas.

Regarding the U.S. warships opening fire this afternoon, the same source said U.S. Marine positions came under artillery fire at 1645. The Marines returned the fire with various types of weapons, including the guns of warships off the Lebanese coast.

Air Traffic Resumes

NC151820 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1812 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] A security source reported a short while ago that air traffic at Beirut International Airport resumed at 2010. MEA Chairman Salim Salam informed us that two Middle East Airlines' planes will take off tonight; one of them is bound for Dhahran.

Gunmen Withdraw Following Clash With French

NC131519 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Excerpt] The Lebanese Army has finished dealing with the security situation following the clashes that took place between a unit of the French contingent of the Multinational Force and gunmen in the Zuqaq al-Balat, Khandaq al-Ghamiq, and Gaumont Palace areas. The gunmen withdrew from the areas of the clashes at roughly 1620 today. As a result of the clashes, a Lebanese Army position in Gaumont Palace came under fire and three soldiers were slightly wounded. The Fu'ad Shihab Bridge remains closed.

RPG Fired at French Unit; No Casualties Reported

NC151814 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] A security source reports that at 1930 today unknown persons fired an RPG from 'Umar Bayhum Street at As-Sanawbar Palace, where the French paratrooper unit's headquarters is located. The source says there were no casualties.

French Headquarters Hit by Rocket; No Injuries

LD152052 Paris Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] The French contingent's headquarters in Beirut was hit tonight by a rocket shell. Fortunately, no one was injured and there was only slight damage to the building. According to a French Army spokesman, this type of harassment has been taking place almost daily since the beginning of January.

Reportage on Situation in South, IDF Actions

Birri on Increased Attacks

NC141857 Paris AFP in English 1851 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] Beirut, Jan 14 (AFP) — Islamic fighters will step up attacks against Israeli forces occupying southern Lebanon, the head of the Amal Shi'ite Moslem Militia, Nabih Birri, declared at a press conference here today.

The decision was made to "counter-balance the reinforcement of repressive acts" against south Lebanon's population, Mr Birri said. "The Jewish state would do best to withdraw (from the area) without delay, or else see its security threatened within its own borders," he warned.

The militia leader also criticized the Lebanese Government for allegedly seeking to sow discord between Lebanese Shi'ite Muslims and French soldiers of the Multinational Peacekeeping Force. He denied government charges that fighting broke out in Beirut yesterday between Amal gunmen and French forces, and blamed the Lebanese Army for having fired shots to foment trouble.

Mr Birri reiterated his support for an all-party plan, which has yet to be ratified, to pacify Beirut and nearby highlands by creating buffer zones between warring factions. The peace plan should be followed by a resumption of talks aimed at cancelling the May 17 Lebanese-Israeli troop withdrawal accord, he said.

Al-Awwali Reopened to Pedestrians

NC150824 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0745 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] The Junblattist gunmen and their allies exacerbated the situation in the mountain at approximately 0845 when they directed machinegun volleys and several rocket shells towards the Lebanese Army positions in 'Ayn Ksur. Clashes commenced and are continuing on the 'Ayn Ksur-Al-Fasqin axis. Sniping is also observed to be coming from 'Aytat, in the direction of Suq al-Gharb.

In the Al-Kharrub region, intermittent sniper fire from Junblattist emplacements in Barja has been directed at Al-Jiyah since this morning.

Meanwhile, the Israeli forces this morning opened the Al-Awwali bridge in both directions for pedestrian traffic only.

Sidon Port Surrounded

NC151050 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] Our correspondent in the south reports that the Israeli forces surrounded the port area in Sidon this morning and began a combing operation after cutting the roads leading there after a bomb was thrown at an Israeli patrol passing in the area.

The Israeli forces also cut the main road at the Ar-Rahibat and military beach areas in Sidon. They also surrounded the Al-Hisbah area for unknown reasons.

We have just been informed that the Israeli forces closed the Az-Zahrani-Sidon and Az-Zahrani-An-Nabatiyah Roads near Al-Jisr triangle this morning. They also closed the approaches to Marj 'Uyun near Al-Khardali Bridge and Al-Khiyam-Ark 'Uyn Road. The Israeli forces set up a checkpoint near the Al-Hajjah crossroad close to the junction leading to An-Nabatiyah.

'Isa Abu 'Isa, our correspondent in the south further reports that Israeli motorized and foot patrols were deployed on the Sidon-Tyre Road and that they were slowly moving along the coastal road. Only pedestrians were permitted to cross the Al-Awwali Bridge in both directions. Scores of citizens waited in the rain for their turn to cross.

Reopen Az-Zahrani Area Roads

NC151435 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] A hand grenade was hurled today at noon at an Israeli patrol in An-Nabatiyah near the vocational school. Israeli forces subsequently cordoned off the area and opened fire in all directions. No casualties were reported.

Our correspondent in the south reports that the Israeli forces have reopened the roads in the Az-Zahrani area, the accesses to Al-Hajjah, and in the Saint Joseph Sisters area in Sidon, which they cut this morning without giving any reason.

Resistance Calls General Strike

NC160756 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 0700 GMT 16 Jan 84

[Text] In the south, the Lebanese national resistance has stepped up its military operations against the Israeli occupation forces, inflicting 10 casualties — killed or wounded — on them. The operations were carried out in Sidon and An-Nabatiyah.

The Israeli forces this morning instituted foot and motorized patrols along the coastal line extending from the Al-Awwali Bridge to [word indistinct]. Furthermore, the Israeli forces cut all roads leading to Marj 'Uyun.

In another development, and within the context of the continued resistance operations in the south, the Amal Movement has called on the southerners to observe a general strike tomorrow in protest against the mass arrests and Israeli house searches.

Al-Asad Meets With U.S. Envoy Rumsfeld 13 Jan

JN131735 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Text] Damascus —President Hafiz al-Asad received Donald Rumsfeld, personal envoy of U.S. President Ronald Reagan, at 1230 today. 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Robert Paganelli, U.S. ambassador in Damascus, attended the meeting.

The talks dealt with the situation in the region and the Lebanese developments. Rumsfeld presented his government's viewpoints and stands toward the Middle East issue and the Lebanese crisis. He said that his country's Middle East policy aims at finding just solutions to the problems to be reached through discussions, respect of every country's sovereignty, establishment of cordial relations with all the region's states, and guaranteeing the sovereignty of Lebanon, whose Arab identity was recognized in Geneva.

During the meeting, the president emphasized Syria's principled stands toward Lebanon and the Arab-Israeli conflict. He said: Syria has been calling and working for the establishment of a just peace in the region, based on the UN resolutions and the principles of its charter. He added that achieving peace and stability in the region requires finding just solutions, eliminating aggression and occupation, and recognizing the peoples' legitimate rights. He said that the United States can play a positive role in this regard once it adopts a neutral stand toward the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Referring to the Israeli and Zionist influence in the United States, the president said: The unlimited U.S. support for Israel encourages Israel to commit aggression and exercise occupation. The president stressed Syria's concern for Lebanon's independence and unity. He said: We have not entered Lebanon through an agreement with the United States, Israel, or any other party in the world. We entered it in response to a Lebanese request and Lebanese appeals. Therefore, when we leave Lebanon we will do so only through agreement with the Lebanese brothers.

The president addedd: In view of the historical, humanitarian, pan-Arab, geographical, and political factors, it is inconceivable for us to equate the Syrian position in Lebanon with the Israeli position there. We cannot link our withdrawal from Lebanon with the Israelis' presence there. The president said: When the Syrian forces entered Lebanon no Israeli or Multinational Forces were there. When these forces leave Lebanon no foreign forces should be there and when the Lebanese brothers are free and not subject to the pressure of invasion and occupation there will be no problem between Syria and Lebanon.

The president emphasized Syria's stand toward the 17 May agreement and said: We are against this agreement because Lebanon is against it, because we and Lebanon are one people, because this agreement gives Israel gains in Lebanon, and because it is against Lebanon's national interests as well as against our nation's pan-Arab interests. This agreement conflicts with Lebanon's membership in the Arab League and the collective Arab defense pact and with Lebanon's Arab commitments.

The president said that this agreement, which turned Lebanon into an Israeli protectorate, should be annulled. He stressed that Syria rejects any action that establishes either a meaning or a reality which indicates the continuation of the Israeli occupation of a part of Lebanon. He stressed the importance of a national political accord in Lebanon because without a national accord no politician or official can ensure peace, security, and stability in Lebanon.

Rumsfeld Departs

JN131933 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Text] At 1630 today, U.S. presidential envoy Donald Rumsfeld left Damascus following a 2-day visit to Syria. He was seen off at Damascus airport by Dr Sami Ghulayyil, director of American Affairs Department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Khalil Abu Hadid, assistant director of protocol; the U.S. ambassador in Damascus; and the embassy staff.

Damascus Radio Commentary

JN141508 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1225 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen, the U.S. President's special envoy Donald Rumsfeld came to Damascus within the framework of a tour of some of the region's capitals. He held talks with 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister. President Hafiz al-Asad also received him. As in other places, Rumsfeld used in Damascus the phrase of peace and stability when he talked about the U.S. Administration's objectives in the region and about the just solutions that must be reached through discussion. Undoubtedly, peace is the objective of all peoples and mankind's dream. Syria has sought and is seeking peace. As President Hafiz al-Asad said, Syria is not a devotee of war or enemy of peace. However, it seems that the Syrian concept of peace differs from the U.S. concept of peace. Syria believes that peace cannot be separated from right and justice, and consequently peace in the Middle East can only be achieved through respect for the principles of the UN Charter, the international law, and the peoples' right to self-determination, freedom, and equality. This means that the achievement of peace in the region can only be achieved through respect for the principles of the UN Charter, particularly the peoples' right to self-determination, including the Palestinian Arab people; and the principle of impermissibility of annexing others' lands by force. The actual implementation of this principle necessitates that all the Israeli forces withdraw from all the Arab territories that these forces have occupied through war, aggression, and violation of the UN resolutions.

For the sake of this peace that must be comprehensive and lasting, Syrian has sincerely cooperated with the United Nations and others. Syria is still ready for such cooperation, but peace cannot be achieved in accordance with one party's desire. What has prevented and is preventing the achievement of peace in the Middle East is that the peace that the United States is calling for

seeks the capitulation of the Arabs to Israel's aggression against them and their rights and its occupation of their land. It also requires that the Arabs open their countries for Israel's political, military, economic, and cultural invasion. The U.S. concept of peace means that the Arabs must relinquish their national will and pan-Arab interests, accept U.S. hegemony over their destinies, and subjugate their decision to the U.S. influence. The United States seeks a peace that would entrench the fait accompli that it has imposed or that Israel seeks to impose through war, force, aggression, and violation of law — a peace that gives protection and legitimacy to the usurpation of land and rights and deprives the victims of aggression of the right to defend themselves against the tyranny of the aggressor.

The United States seeks a peace that would actually entrench the results of the aggression and violation of the law. The United States itself provided Israel with the means and cover for this aggression. We can say positively that the United States has paid the price of every bullet or missile by which an Arab martyr fell and an Arab house or installation was destroyed. The United States has also paid the price of the Israeli means of war and destruction that invaded and occupied the Arab land. The United States has always been biased toward Israel which has carried out aggressions against the Arabs. Moreover, the United States has stood against the international community in defense of Israel and hampered the UN role and responsibility in this regard. Even in Lebanon, where Israel carried out a brutal invasion that was denounced by the world public opinion and the United Nations, the United States supported Israel and imposed on some Lebanese officials an unjust agreement between two unequal sides —an agreement that would turn Lebanon into an Israeli protectorate in the full sense of the word. The U.S. forces have come to Lebanon to support the Israeli occupation and participate in the civil war that Israel and Washington have ignited. The examples that the United States has given regarding its interpretation of peace in the Middle East are repulsive and not in the interest of the United States or the real peace.

Any dialogue on the peace of injustice, war, aggression, occupation, violation of the law, and the relinquishment of national will is a dialogue that cannot lead to peace and stability, or help solve the basic problems in the region. The ball is in the U.S. Administration's court, particularly in U.S. President Reagan's court. If this administration does not change its current policy, which is hostile to the Arabs and the issue of peace in the region, then the dialogue with this administration will be between the deaf, and the loser will only be the U.S. Administration and the U.S. interests. It is known that Syria does not withdraw one inch from its rights, land, and its nation's interests, and its concept of peace which is based on right and justice and the right of all people to self-defense.

TISHRIN on U.S. Policy

JN160737 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 16 Jan 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Commenting on Syria's unswerving stand in confrontation of all the U.S.-Israeli attempts to impose hegemony over the region *TISHRIN* says: The U.S. Administration has through various means sought to change the Syrian Arab stand and for this purpose has mobilized all its tools in the region, particularly Israel. One of these means has been the leaking of reports by the United States that it understands the Syrian viewpoint but without concrete implementation of this understanding. This has made Syria state more than once that the United States can play a positive role in the region once it adopts a neutral stand on the Arab-Israeli dispute. The United States, however, is providing unlimited support to the aggression against us. This has made the U.S. decision in the Middle East an Israeli decision and the U.S. policy an Israeli policy.

TISHRIN wonders: Will the American people approve the continuation of this policy? Does the U.S. Administration believe it can peddle its imperialist and Zionist scheme seeking to impose U.S. tutelage on the entire region? The Syrian Arab steadfastness is capable of foiling all conspiracies that are hostile to our nation and which are directed against our existence. This must be realized by all those who stand behind these conspiracies.

U.S. Presence in Lebanon Viewed

JN151535 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1225 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] U.S. administrative and Israeli government circles have recently started to say that they plan to change their forces' situation on the Lebanese territory. They sometimes hint at partial withdrawal and sometimes hint at reasons for implementing a prepared plan regarding the so-called redeployment of forces. Of course, these claims coincided with the so-called withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon in an evil attempt to put the legitimate Syrian military presence in Lebanon on equal footing with the presence of the Israeli invaders and the U.S. occupiers, and to depict Syria as the one hampering the Israeli and U.S. withdrawal and the achievement of the Lebanese security plan.

Those Zionists and Americans who claim that they are concerned about Lebanon's unity and independence have forgotten how their forces entered Lebanon. They have forgotten that their forces' presence in Lebanon was the result of a hostile agreement between them — an agreement that they have implemented step by step until Lebanon has reached the current situation. They have forgotten that this presence is an occupation and invasion, and that any attempt to make comparisons between this presence and the legitimate Syrian presence is an attempt to ignore reason and logic and to ridicule people, the principles of national sovereignty, and the right of all people to live in freedom and dignity.

The Syrian Arab forces entered Lebanon at the request of the Lebanese people and the Lebanese legitimacy in order to stop bloodshed among the Lebanese brothers. Syria achieved successfully thepan-Arab objective. However, the Zionists' hostile forces invaded Lebanon. They have killed, wounded, or expelled thousands of Lebanese, and they paved the way for the American forces to enter Lebanon. They all launched successive raids on the Lebanese citizens and the nationalist forces' positions. Their

role, not only as a party in a domestic Lebanese conflict but also as a force that supports the plan to partition Lebanon — people and land — in order to impose their full hegemony over it, was exposed.

When they realized that they could not implement this hostile plan because of the strength of the Lebanese nationalist stand and the unlimited Syrian support for this stand, they began talking about what they have called the need to achieve synchronous withdrawals — even though the objectives of the Syrian military presence contradict the objectives of the Israeli-U.S. presence in Lebanon. It is time for the Americans to admit that their presence in Lebanon will not achieve their strategic interests regardless of their claims that fighting to achieve those interests is a means of self-defense. It is also time for Zionists to know and to realize that they will fail and will be forced to withdraw from Lebanon because of the fierce Lebanese nationalist resistance, the strength of its stand, and the readiness of the sons of the fraternal country to offer additional sacrifices in order to liberate the homeland. The only way the Zionists can find a way out of the impasse in Lebanon is to immediately withdraw, without conditions or restrictions, in accordance with UN Security Council Resolutions 508 and 509.

However, the Syrian withdrawal is a domestic Lebanese-Syrian affair, one which no one has the right to discuss or interfere in. Leader Al-Asad has affirmed that when the Israelis complete their withdrawal from Lebanon there will be no problem regarding the Syrian forces' withdrawal, because these forces were in Lebanon before the invasion. They did not enter Lebanon as a result of an agreement with the Americans, just to withdraw as a result of an agreement with them. If they are really concerned about Lebanon's freedom, independence, and the liberation of its land, they must convince the Israelis to withdraw their forces, — and in fact withdraw their own forces. Moreover, they must not interfere in the affairs of Syrian-Lebanese relations, because these relations are not and will not be the result of transient political circumstances. Moreover, these relations will not be affected by an aggression by this or that party, because they are firm, entrenched, and deep-rooted, and because the ties between the two fraternal peoples are immortal.

Kuwait's AL-QABAS: Reagan To Meet With Al-Asad

LD151012 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0838 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] Kuwait 15 Jan (KUNA) — Kuwait's *AL-QABAS* today reported that U.S. President Reagan is to have a meeting with the President of Syria, Hafiz al-Asad, in early spring.

The paper attributed the report to a diplomatic source; it did not identify it and said only that it was an Arab source.

It said that the meeting of President Reagan and President al-Asad "would take place before the convening of the Arab summit set to be held at the end of the coming March."

In the same report it pointed out that its source "does not rule out a meeting between the foreign ministers of both countries in the near future to arrange the meeting and to agree on the principles."

Libya's Jallud Holds Press Conference, Departs

JN150759 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud, member of the Libyan Revolution Command Council, left Damascus last night following a weeklong visit to Syria during which he met with President Hafiz al-Asad and other senior officials. 'Abd al-Qadir Qaddurah, deputy prime minister for economic affairs, and several leaders of the Fatah revolutionary uprising saw him off at Damascus International Airport.

Maj Jallud reaffirmed his country's support for Syria — the citadel of Arab steadfastness — and for the Lebanese National Salvation Front [NSF] and the Amal Movement because they are waging the battle on behalf of the Arab nation. In a press conference held yesterday evening following his meeting with the leaders of the Fatah revolutionary uprising and attended by the correspondents of the Arab and foreign news agencies and television and radio networks in Damascus, Jallud indicated Libya's full material and military support for the Fatah uprising.

He called on the United States, the Multinational Forces, and the Israeli forces to withdraw from Lebanon as soon as possible so that the Lebanese can solve their problems by themselves. He stressed that there can be no peace in Lebanon unless the 17 May agreement is annulled.

Replying to a question by the journalists, Nimr Salih, one of the Fatah uprising movement's leaders, said that intensive dialogue is going on among all the Palestinian revolution forces, Syria, Libya, and the Lebanese NSF with the aim of drawing up the future course to confront the U.S.-Zionist scheme in the region.

In reply to another question on Syria's role in this dialogue, Nimr Salih said: We are getting ready, together, to inflict defeat on any plan that tries to rescue Camp David. He stressed that Syria is the basic pillar in confronting the U.S. scheme in the region.

Departure Remarks Reported

NC150720 Paris AFP in English 0701 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] Damascus, Jan 15 (AFP) — Libya is ready to give military and financial support to the anti-'Arafat Palestinians and the "AMAL" Shi'a moslem militia in Lebanon, Libyan second-in-command 'Abd as-Salam Jallud said on leaving Syria for home last night.

He said his trip here was to consult Syrian leaders, Palestinian hard-liners and Lebanese leftists on how to "face the Israeli-American aims and the latest Jordanian-Palestinian steps toward those aims."

Major Jallud added: "Mr. (Yasir) 'Arafat, like (the assassinated Egyptian President (Anwar) as-Sadat, believed that this steps would be unnoticed and stir up no waves. But eight Palestinian organizations now say that Mr. 'Arafat no longer represents them."

Earlier Saturday, Major Jallud warned that Lebanon this year will become "a volcano for the crusaders (the Multi-national Force) and the Phalangists" (Christian conservative militia).

The Americans were trying "to lower tension until the presidential election (next November), but we will not let them succeed and we will make this year the year of the explosion. We advise President Reagan as well as his allies in the multi-national force to withdraw the force from Lebanon."

PDRY Foreign Minister Arrives 12 Jan

JN121651 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 12 Jan 84

[Text] Damascus —Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali, PDRY foreign minister, arrived in Damascus this evening. 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; the director of protocol at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; the PDRY ambassador in Damascus; and the embassy staff received him at Damascus airport.

Departs 14 Jan

JN141304 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] Damascus — PDRY Foreign Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali left Damascus today after a short visit to Syria. Faruq ash-Shar', minister of state for foreign affairs; the chief of protocol at the Foreign Ministry; the PDRY ambassador; and the staff of the PDRY embassy saw the PDRY minister off at Damascus Airport.

Al-Ahmar Receives YSP Central Committee Member

JN141700 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] Damascus —Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, this morning received YSP Central Committee member Comrade Mahmud an-Najashi and his accompanying delegation. At the beginning of the meeting, Comrade Mahmud an-Najashi conveyed the greetings of President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad to comrade struggler President Hafiz al-Asad, secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, congratulations on his recovery, and wishes of continued good health. During the meeting, the talks dealt with the recent political developments in the region, particularly those related to the Arab-Zionist conflict, the situation in Lebanon, and the feverish and continuous attempts of U.S. imperialism to impose its hegemony over the Arab nation and the region's states.

Comrade al-Ahmar explained Syria's stand toward the current developments and stressed that Syria is determined to defend the Arab rights against all forms of conspiracies and imperialist-Zionist aggression.

Comrade an-Najashi expressed the PDRY people's pride in the Syrian people's struggle and steadfastness under President Hafiz al-Asad, and their firm and progressive course which is hostile to imperialism and Zionism and their expansionist objectives in the Arab region.

Comrade al-Ahmar asked Comrade An-Najashi to convey the greetings of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party's Command to the YSP Central Committee.

HATZOFE Reports on Cabinet Session 15 January

TA160909 Tel Aviv HATZOFE in Hebrew 16 Jan 84, p 1

[Report by political affairs correspondent]

[Text] Defense Minister Moshe Arens denied in yesterday's Cabinet session — in response to a question from a minister — the report that maintaining the IDF in Lebanon was costing Israel $1 million per day. These reports were groundless, Arens said, noting that the cost of this effort was one quarter of this amount.

Another question asked at yesterday's Cabinet session concerned the secret military document, compiled by an IDF headquarters department, which MK Shulamit Aloni related to the Knesset. The response to this question was: The fact that this document had been leaked is extremely serious. Security branches are currently discussing various avenues for an IDF pullout from Lebanon, and this document is one of many drawn up on this issue.

Also discussed at the Cabinet session were the remarks made by Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, who stated that Israel was being weakened from within by its serious economic situation, and by the struggle being waged by the opposition and that because of these problems, Israel would pull out of Lebanon and Judaea and Samaria.

Attorney General Zamir said at the Cabinet session that government officials who speak out publicly against government policy are guilty of a breach of loyalty; government officials are forbidden to criticize government policy. These remarks were made following the appearance of a number of government officials before Knesset committees.

Budget Discussion Postponed

TA141618 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] The Cabinet discussion of the budget has been postponed for a week, mainly because of the dispute over the education budget. Our correspondent Gadi Sukenik reports that the minister of education is scheduled to examine the problem seriously this week. The dispute about the defense budget has also not been settled yet. According to plan, the Cabinet had been scheduled to decide tomorrow about the framework of the budget and cuts in it, as decided by the Ministerial Committee on Economic Affairs. Our correspondent states that according to the plan, cuts in the education and defense budgets total more than a quarter of the total amount to be cut.

POST: U.S. Expected To Cover Deficit

TA150754 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 15 Jan 84 p 1

[Text] Washington — In its forecast of economic needs for 1985, which is due to be submitted to the Reagan administration at the end of this week, Israel is to list a $1.3 billion deficit, which it cannot cover from its own resources.

Israel is expecting the U.S. to cover almost the entire deficit. The U.S. is providing Israel with $910 million in non-military aid in 1984. The forecast is due to be presented on Friday, at the opening of aid talks.

Tomorrow delegations from both countries are to begin talks on the establishment of a free-trade zone. The Israeli delegation comprises the deputy directors-general of the Finance, Industry and Trade, Agriculture and Foreign Ministries.

Inflation in 1983 Reached 190.7 Percent

TA151543 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] The cost of living index rose by 11.7 percent in December. Inflation for the whole of 1983 totalled 190.7 percent. This was reported by the Central Bureau of Statistics.

Last month's cost of living index increased mainly because of price rises in food, housing maintenance, entertainment, transportation, and postal services. The biggest increase in December was for food — 13.5 percent. The lowest increase was for clothing and footwear — 4.3 percent. The cost of living index for housing construction rose by 12.9 percent last month.

In response to the increase in the cost of living index, our correspondent Gadi Sukenik was told by the Finance Ministry that while the December index is still high, it is lower than the index of the previous month.

Histadrut Agrees to 46.5 Percent Cost of Living Raise

TA151918 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] The cost of living increase which will be paid to salaried employees in their next paycheck will amount to 46.5 percent. However, the 18 percent advance payment last month will be deducted from this. According to our correspondent, this was agreed tonight between representatives of the Histadrut and the employers.

Shamir on Lebanon, Syria, Egypt, Jordan

TA131708 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1620 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Excerpts] Tel Aviv, 13 Jan (ITIM) — The prime minister appeared today at the Herut movement's political and economic club in Bet Asia, Tel Aviv. He devoted most of his remarks to the country's economic problems and ways to overcome them. He also referred to the political and security areas, emphasizing that there were no differences of opinion between the Cabinet and the security establishment.

In Mr Shamir's opinion, after the peace treaty with Egypt and the agreement with Lebanon, Israel could not live in the area as though in a ghetto. It must know everything that happens with its neighbors. As for a search for ways to contact and hold dialogues with our neighbors, he said: "These ways do not always lead to formal agreements, but there is no doubt that this

activity does contribute to our security, and raises our prestige in the area and in the international arena."

The prime minister added that it was not always possible to aim at a peace treaty. Sometimes normal relations are achieved with a country with whom we have no diplomatic relations, and that way should not be dismissed.

As for Lebanon, Israel wants a peace treaty with it. If Lebanon were independent, Israel would get this, but in the current conditions Israel is adopting security arrangements that will permit the IDF soldiers to return home. Conditions that will provide the north of Israel with security, and not require us to be in Lebanon, must be guaranteed. The prime minister stressed that there were no differences of opinion on this matter between the security establishment and the political echelons, and there were no grounds for the reports published on this matter.

The prime minister added that Syria was an important factor in Lebanon, and it was difficult to speak about security arrangements without a change in Syria's position. Such a change has not yet occurred. "The demand for us to declare loudly that a withdrawal does not depend on a change in the Syrian position weakens our position and that of the United States, which is identical with ours," the prime minister emphasized. In his view, it is essential to take an international stand against Syrian intransigence in order to arrive at a solution which does not involve an Israeli presence in Lebanon.

Mr Shamir stressed that the peace treaty with Egypt was still valid, but he added that there were no normal relations, and an outstanding expression of this was the absence of an Egyptian ambassador in Israel. There were no cultural relations, there was no Egyptian tourist traffic to Israel, and commerce between the two countries was not expanding— and this was harmful to Israel.

Mr Shamir noted as characteristic the statements by Yasir 'Arafat, who had publicly praised Egyptian President Mubarak for not having fallen into the trap of normalization with Israel. The prime minister repeatedly stressed that 'Arafat's reception in Egypt was a grave act which had damaged the peace process. In his estimation, no moderation by the PLO and 'Arafat could be expected; and if the Government of Egypt wants genuine peace, it should resume the autonomy negotiations.

The prime minister said that Israel was interested in Jordan's entry into the peace process, and the Camp David agreements had created the foundations for this. The Rabat resolutions should not stop Jordan from joining the peace process, all the more so as closer relations between Jordan and the PLO could jeopardize the existence of the Jordanian Government.

U.S. Envoy Rumsfeld Arrives Unexpectedly 13 Jan

TA141411 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] An official from the U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv has confirmed that envoy Donald Rumsfeld arrived in Israel unexpectedly last night, after having met for talks with Syrian leaders in Damascus. The official, who asked to remain anonymous, told the AP correspondent that Rumsfeld had no meetings planned with Israeli leaders. He said Rumsfeld had only come to Tel Aviv to rest. The official refused to give any details of the envoy's future moves. Rumsfeld had been scheduled to fly to Beirut last night after having met with Al-Asad.

Meets With Arens, Kimche

TA151956 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] The chances of working out a political arrangement in Lebanon have decreased. This was reported today by U.S. envoy Donald Rumsfeld to Defense Minister Moshe Arens and Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche. Rumsfeld reported that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad is firm in his opposition to implementing the security plan in Lebanon until the [17] May agreement between the Governments of Israel and Lebanon is cancelled.

Al-Asad Tells U.K.'s Howe Israel Weakening

TA150947 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 15 Jan 84 p 1

["Exclusive" report from England by Sha'ul Tzadaqa]

[Text] London — In his talk with British Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs Geoffrey Howe, President al-Asad said that the split within Israeli society, the galloping inflation caused by the tottering management of the economy, and the victims of the Lebanon war attest to the fact that the strength of the Jewish nation is running out.

British sources that accompanied the secretary in his visit to Damascus have reported that Al-Asad believes Israel will hit rock bottom and this will force it to decide to return the territories occupied in 1967.

Al-Asad, who according to Howe looked "healthy and invigorated," hinted to the latter that the Americans now hold the cards in Lebanon. British sources told the *HA'ARETZ* correspondent that Al-Asad made it clear to Howe that he does not intend to soften his stand on the U.S. involvement and the need to annul the Israeli-Lebanese accord.

Israel and Britain are in conflict over statements made by Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs Geoffrey Howe during his tour in the Middle East. Howe, who called for the inclusion of the PLO in the political process and who criticized Israel's policy in the territories, returned to London over the weekend amid the protests of the Israeli Embassy in London.

Ambassador Yehuda Avner called the Foreign Office on Friday and expressed Israel's disappointment and protest about Howe's statements, which appeared as an attempt to revive the European Venice initiative.

Howe claimed in his defense that his statements do not deviate from the British Government's official position, and that along with his call on Israel to accept the Reagan plan and to stop

settlement in the West Bank, he also called on the PLO to recognize Israel's security needs.

Reportage on 14 Jan Death of Lebanon's Haddad

TA141609 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Major Sa'd Haddad died less than an hour ago at his home in Marj 'Uyun. He was 47. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that when he died, his wife (Therese), his six daughters, his brothers, and Catholic priests from southern Lebanon were at his bedside. The bells of the churches of Marj 'Uyun, where Haddad was born, are now beginning to peal. Haddad will be buried in Marj 'Uyun. Details of the funeral arrangements will be reported tomorrow.

Shamir Expresses Sorrow

TA141711 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir this evening expressed profound sorrow at the death of Major Sa'd Haddad, and called him a great Lebanese patriot, a friend and loyal ally of Israel. The prime minister commented that Maj Haddad had regarded cooperation with Israel as a faithful service to his people and homeland. Israel hopes that the campaign he began will continue, and that his life and struggle will serve as a perfect example to lovers of peace on both sides of the Israeli-Lebanese border.

Defense Ministry Announcement

TA141731 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1717 GMT 14 Jan 84

["Ministry of Defense Spokesman's Announcement" — ITIM headline]

[Text] Jerusalem, 14 Jan (ITIM) — This evening, Defense Minister Moshe Arens issued the following statement:

This evening, the State of Israel and the IDF bow their heads at the death of Major Sa'd Haddad.

About 7 years ago, Maj Haddad was sent to defend the security of the inhabitants of southern Lebanon. During the years that have passed since then, he tied their fate to that of the inhabitants of Israel, and especially those in the north of the country.

He, together with his fighters, fought with bravery and dedication to stop the terrorists' return to southern Lebanon, their consolidation in that part of the country, and their attempts to infiltrate into Israel from there.

Sa'd Haddad was a great Lebanese patriot, who remained loyal to his country and his army to the very last minute.

Today, Lebanon has lost one of its most able commanders, and Israel has lost one of its best friends.

Ilyas Khalil Named Replacement

TA141814 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] Israel and Lebanon have agreed [sikmu] that Colonel Ilyas Khalil will be appointed to replace Sa'd Haddad as commander of the Lebanese forces in southern Lebanon. Our correspndent Hayim Hecht reports that Khalil is a Christian from the village of (Adusha) near Sidon. At one time he served with Haddad in the Lebanese Army.

Khalil Appointment Denied

JN151906 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 15 Jan 84

[From the "With the Events" program]

[Text] Authoritative Israeli sources have denied reports that a successor to Major Sa'd Haddad was appointed. The sources have affirmed that the appointment of Sa'd Haddad's successor is the prerogative of the Lebanese Government. They also have expected such an appointment to take place within the framework of the security arrangements that are to be made in southern Lebanon in accordance with the terms of the 17 May agreement between Israel and Lebanon.

On the other hand, our military correspondent said that there are a number of candidates who can occupy Maj Haddad's position in leading the army of free Lebanon, and that the Lebanese Government and the Army authorities are considering the possibility of selecting one of these candidates. Our correspondent added that any decision to appoint a successor to Maj Haddad is a Lebanese one to be made through consultations with the leaders of southern Lebanon's residents and Israel's representatives. It is noteworthy that the army of free Lebanon should have been deployed within the Lebanese battalion in southern Lebanon in accordance with the terms of the agreement concluded between Israel and Lebanon.

Jerusalem Arabic on Funeral

JN150930 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 0730 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] The body of Major Sa'd Haddad, who died yesterday evening, will be laid out at the cultural club in the township of Marj 'Uyun in southern Lebanon at noon today so that the inhabitants can pay their last respects. The body will be taken to Haddad's headquarters in the citadel of Marj 'Uyun tomorrow morning so that his soldiers and officers can bid him farewell. The body will then be taken to the Marj 'Uyun church for prayers for his soul. At 1400 tomorrow, Monday, Haddad will be ceremonially buried in the township's cemetery.

The security forces have adopted stringent security measures in Marj 'Uyun and its environs. Roadblocks have been set up on the roads leading to Marj 'Uyun. The security forces and Maj Sa'd Haddad's forces are checking all cars heading to the township.

The Israeli president, prime minister, Knesset chairman, and other senior personalities expressed their deep regret over Maj Haddad's death. The described him as a great Lebanese patriot and both a friend and ally to Israel. They hoped that his life and struggle will serve as an ideal example to lovers of peace on both sides of the Israeli-Lebanese border.

Former Prime Minister Menahem Begin expressed profound sorrow at the death of Maj Haddad and sent condolences to his family. Begin said that Haddad was faithful to his people and homeland and was a faithful friend of the State of Israel. He hoped that the one who replaces him in southern Lebanon will be of the same level and line as Maj Haddad. Begin added that he hopes peace will soon prevail between Israel and Lebanon. Begin was talking in an interview broadcast this morning.

Today's issue of *YEDI'OT AHARONOT* says that last October one of its correspondents met with Maj Haddad, who gave her his will and asked her to publish it after his death. The newspaper published the text of the will today. In it Haddad says: We will always be indebted to Israel for what it did for Lebanon. I have sacrificed my life for the sake of my country. Remember me as a Lebanese citizen who loves his homeland.

Cabinet Eulogizes Haddad

TA151321 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] The Cabinet today paid tribute to the memory of Sa'd Haddad by rising to its feet. This followed a eulogy by Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir. Our political correspondent notes that the Cabinet today dealt for the most part with economic affairs.

Views on Successor Analyzed

TA151831 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] At today's Cabinet meeting, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir praised Major Sa'd Haddad as a great Lebanese patriot. The Cabinet ministers stood in memory of the late militia leader. David Essing reports:

Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said Maj Sa'd Haddad realized that southern Lebanon and Israel shared a joint interest in cooperating against terrorist infiltration, but what happens now? Israel was aware of Haddad's fatal illness during the negotiations with Lebanon on the 17 May Agreement. A senior Israeli defense official recently said that this was taken into account, and the official added that for some time now, the Israeli army has been working closely with Christian officers in the south to form a new command. Following today's Cabinet session, Cabinet Secretary Dan Meridor said Israel hopes to continue its close cooperation with the militia, no matter who is named the new commander.

[Begin Meridor recording] We will go on in our cooperation with those people in Lebanon, and with whomever will succeed Maj Haddad in his role inside Lebanon, because we believe we have a community of interests along the border with Lebanon. I don't know exactly, and I can't describe how exactly the death of Maj Haddad will influence everyday life in southern Lebanon or the security of Israel. I hope we will do whatever we can, and I know this is what Maj Haddad would have wanted us to do, to help the continuance of what he has taught us. [end recording]

Dan Meridor, raised some question marks about what might now develop. The Cabinet secretary says the naming of Haddad's successor is a Lebanese affair. However, it can be said that Israel would obviously want to say who that new commander is. Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil appears to have two options open. He might try to appease the Syrians by sending a Christian commander with orders to be less friendly toward Israel and to put some distance between the militia and the Israeli army, but, in any event, as the senior official recently said, everyone knows the Israeli army is the force on the ground, and the Lebanese militia must work with Israel. On the other hand, President al-Jumayyil might continue to use his agreement with Israel as leverage on the Syrians. The Lebanese leader has been telling Syria that he has no choice but to stand by the agreement with Israel, and if the Syrians don't pull out, Israel won't either.

West Bank Leader Appointed to Jordanian Senate

TA151423 Jerusalem tHE JERUSALEM POST in English 15 Jan 84 p 2

[Report by David Richardson]

[Excerpt] Hikmat al-Masri, president of the An-Najah University in Nabulus and one of the leading pro-Jordanian figures in the West Bank, was appointed to the Jordanian Senate last week.

Several West Bank Palestinians have been appointed in the Jordanian upper house in the past, but all are either resident in Amman or too old to travel. Al-Masri has in the past served as speaker of the Jordanian Parliament and as a minister in the Jordanian Cabinet. His appointment takes place against a background of an anticipated increase in Jordanian involvement in the West Bank as a prelude to possible peace talks with Israel. His nephew, Tahir al-Masri, was appointed foreign minister in the Jordanian Cabinet announced last week.

Grenade Explodes at Jerusalem Monastery

TA150924 Jerusaelm Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] A booby-trapped grenade exploded 2 hours ago in the (Gorni) Monastery in 'En Kerem in Jerusalem; no one was injured. Our correspondent Shlomo Raz reports that the grenade was planted near the door of the monastery and exploded when a nun opened it.

Two Attacks on IDF in Lebanon Reported

TA151456 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1447 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] There were two attempts to attack IDF soldiers this afternoon in the eastern sector of Lebanon. A charge planted at roadside exploded near the village of Ansar as an IDF convoy

was passing by. Nobody was hurt. At the same time, a hand grenade was thrown and small arms fire was directed at an IDF vehicle moving through An-Nabatiyah. In this incident, too, there were no casualties.

Sidon Patrol Attacked

TA151011 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0952 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] Two hand grenades were thrown this morning at an IDF patrol in Sidon's market square. There were no injuries and the IDF forces are searching the area.

Another Sidon Attack Reported

TA151910 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] A charge planted at roadside exploded near an IDF convoy on the coastal road south of Sidon. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that the Israeli forces sustained no casualties, but a local resident was injured by fragments. This is the fourth attack on our forces in south Lebanon today. There were no casualties in any of the four attempts.

IDF Uproots Citrus Groves in South Lebanon

TA151750 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] IDF bulldozers today uprooted several dozen meters of citrus groves and plantations by the roadsides in south Lebanon. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that terrorist gangs have lately taken to using these fruit orchards as shelter in their ambushes on IDF patrols. Israeli officers today explained to village leaders in southern Lebanon that uprooting the citrus groves is not part of their policy, nor do they intend to uproot large areas. However, the officers made it clear that wherever it transpires that a citrus grove, plantation, or stone wall serves as a hiding place for terrorists, the IDF will not hesitate to remove it.

Leaders Angered by Al-Awwali, Orchard Policies

TA141629 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] Christian and Shi'ite leaders in Lebanon are angry that the IDF is closing the bridges over the Al-Awwali River and uprooting orchards and groves beside the coastal road. The mayor of Sidon has complained that last week the IDF closed the bridges over the river for a long time without advance notice, and thus harmed the economy of the south. Parliament Member (Nazi al-Bisri) has warned that the terrorist attacks against the IDF will continue in order to foil what he described as Israel's intention to weaken Sidon. Israeli sources in southern Lebanon have told our correspondent that this week new crossing arrangements were used at the Al-Awwali River bridges to make the traffic flow easier.

Paper Views Israeli, U.S. Positions on Lebanon

TA131142 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 13 Jan 84 Political Sepplement p 4

[Report by Arye Tzimuqi]

[Text] The Cabinet will soon hold a special debate on the situation in Lebanon, at the request [tevi'ato] of Minister Ari'el Sharon, who wants to know what degree of truth is in the reports attributed to Defense Ministry circles on the intention of pulling back the IDF from there. According to those attributions, which have found their way to the media, the defense minister apparently hinted that the removal of the Israeli forces from Lebanon is not linked to a similar move by the Syrian Army. Thus the impression was created that Israel no longer insists that the Syrian forces get out of Lebanon prior to a reciprocal move by the IDF.

Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir commented, in reaction to Sharon's remarks, that no change has occured in Israel's position, which demands the removal of all foreign forces from Lebanon. He likewise denied reports of an IDF redeployment south of the Al-Awwali River. Shamir has recently clarified on a number of occasions that even if we do want to pull out of Lebanon, tactically it is better not to refer to the Syrian issue and refrain from stating that their withdrawal is not a precondition for a military move by us.

It is not coincidental that the defense minister opted out of replying to Arik Sharon's query. Evidently, in light of the reports on the "senior security source's" statements on the withdrawal of our forces from Lebanon and on the redeployment plan the Defense Ministry has allegedly worked out, the prime minister summoned his friend Moshe Arens for a meeting and voiced critical comments on these reports.

Evidently, the prime minister and the defense minister differ over the IDF deployment in southern Lebanon. Mr Arens is not responsible for what happened in Lebanon, and emotionally he does not have the same degree of commitment as other ministers who had contributed toward that policy, which ultimately led to the prevailing situation in Lebanon.

It is no secret that many IDF commanders believe it is necessary to speed up the process of the IDF's withdrawal from Lebanon, while simultaneously establishing the appropriate security arrangements. They believe every effort must be made to limit, to the extent possible, the scope of our military presence in Lebanon.

No doubt the prime minister is also yearning for the day when he would be able to bring the news of the withdrawal of the forces from Lebanon. However, the main difference between his approach and that of the defense minister centers on the tactical moves that should be employed in order to achieve that ultimate, shared goal.

The prime minister is party to the view that has recently been vocalized by the Americans, contending that despite the intransigent declarations frequently made by the Syrian leaders, a degree of softening and moderation could be gleaned in Syria's

position. In Shamir's opinion, that change in the Syrian position has come as a result of the firm position adopted by the United States and Israel. He thinks that if the Syrians can sense a change in Israel's position, there is hardly a chance that they would moderate their position. It is also known that Syria's friends, primarily the Soviets, have been counselling it against exacerbating relations with the United States and reaching a clash with it.

The Americans maintain that the talks Amin al-Jumayyil has been conducting with a variety of political elements regarding a Lebanese security settlement could have run aground if the Syrians had been interested in undermining them.

It should be noted that the degree of understanding and the political-strategic dialogue between Israel and the United States over Lebanon have been increasing. Representatives from Jerusalem and Washington are conducting close and frequent contacts to guarantee a security settlement in Lebanon.

The Israeli representatives have been taking advantage of the friendly ties that have taken shape with the Druze leaders, as well as with some Shi'ite personalities, in order to bridge the differences of opinion that occasionally surface between the various components that make up the Lebanese scene.

It would be difficult to envisage what the talks between the various Lebanese elements might collapse over. Not long ago it seemed as though it was just about possible to proclaim the signing of a security agreement. Yet at the very last moment, a dispute erupted between Lebanese and Druze over a freeze on some promotions and nonpayment of salary to other Druze soldiers who had defected from the Lebanese Army. It was finally possible to settle the dispute thanks to Israeli intervention, but the next day another dispute cropped up over some other marginal issue. It looks as if in the end the desired security settlement will be achieved, and it is clear that Israel is prepared to permit the Lebanese Army to enter the areas under the IDF's control, south of the Al-Awwali. Without a doubt, the Americans are presently the party most interested in the continued Israeli military presence in southern Lebanon. They will do everything in their power and make every effort to make Israel stay there until a political agreement has been reached, for the simple reason that the withdrawal of the IDF units will weaken Amin al-Jumayyil's bargaining power, will make the Syrian's position more inflexible, and prevent the Americans from removing the Marines. Israel, too, has repeatedly been warning the White House not to rush to remove the Marines, because it is only thanks to their presence that Al-Jumayyil's survival is guaranteed and the Syrians are deterred.

U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman General Vessey visited Israel and informed Shamir and Arens that the Lebanese Army, training under the guidance of U.S. officers, will be capable within a few months of carrying out the new redeployment plan, in accordance with a future security settlement.

The Americans are making no secret of their desire to pull the Marines out of Lebanon before the U.S. Presidential election campaign begins. The Administration is bogged down in the same dilemma Israel is facing, namely that an excessive demonstration of the desire to leave Lebanon takes the air out of the sails of bargaining in the negotiations with the Syrians, and makes it more difficult for Al-Jumayyil to succeed in his contacts with the Druze, the Shi'ites, and naturally also with the Syrians.

Commentator: USSR Chose Syria 'Card' Over 'Arafat

JN151657 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1435 GMT 15 Jan 84

["Observation" by 'Ezra Shirazi]

[Text] One of the major conclusions Yasir 'Arafat reached during the siege in Tripoli is that if the Kremlin rulers had to choose between him and the Damascus rulers, they would never hesitate for one moment to sacrifice him in order to keep their Syrian card. The reason is very clear. The Kremlin was satisfied and in agreement with all the Syrian rulers' measures and steps against 'Arafat and his loyalists during the months preceding the Tripoli siege.

The harmony between Moscow and Damascus was clear on the need to destroy 'Arafat's leadership and to prevent him from going toward King Husayn and toward the Reagan Middle East peace plan. Damascus and Moscow differed on the Syrian rulers' desire to physically liquidate 'Arafat and end his leadership forever. Contrary to the Syrian rulers' desire, the Kremilin is of the view that its own interests necessitate keeping 'Arafat's card, even if it becomes very flimsy.

The Kremilin based its calculations on the Soviet image in Arab eyes and on the possibility that it may be necessary to use the 'Arafat card against the Damascus rulers if they deviate from the Kremlin line or if their alliance with it is seriously affected. Yasir 'Arafat must have realized this during the Tripoli siege. All illusions about the real Kremlin position toward him disappeared. He must have discovered the Kremlin rulers' attitude toward sacrificing him in order to keep the Syrian card. These facts are proven by statements made yesterday by Robert Newman, director of Middle East studies at Georgetown University in the United States, who visited Moscow last month. Newman said that the Soviet Union considers Syria to be its only door to the Middle East, and that it will supply Syria with all possible assistance in order to ensure a foothold in the Middle East.

Hence, 'Arafat's recent overtures to Moscow — such as his meeting with the USSR ambassador in Tunis and his delegating Abu Mazin [Mahmud 'Abbas] to Moscow with a message for President Andropov — are 'Arafat's attempt to learn the real value of his worn out card in Moscow's financial market and whether it is currently frozen or being considered for use in the Kremlin market.

Briefs

More Workers From Territories — The number of residents ofthe territories working in Israel totalled about 56,000 last month, which is about 400 more than in November. According to the labor exchange, the main rise was in industry and agriculture, whereas the number of workers from the territories dropped somewhat in the construction and services fields. [Text] [Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 13 Jan 84 TA]

Blame Assigned for Failure of OAU Talks on Chad

OAU Issues Statement

EA141932 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1719 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Statement issued by office of the OAU chairman on 12 January on efforts made to resolve the Chad problem]

[Excerpt] In response to the call made to the Bureau of the OAU by African leaders in Brazzaville, a high-level delegation was sent to Chad. The delegation sent by the current OAU chairman invited President Hissein Habre to come to Addis Ababa for talks on national reconciliation. At the time, the delegation explained to him in detail how the meeting would be prepared and conducted.

He was explicitly told that on arrival in Addis Ababa a national guard of honor would salute him with a 21-gun salute fired in his honor; the national flag of Chad would be displayed for him; the national anthem would be played; he would be escorted by motorcycles; and in general all the procedures and honorable reception due a head of state would be accorded to him. He was also informed that all relevant respect would be accorded the opposition. [sentence indistinct]

It was also made clear to him in well-defined language that on arrival to and departure from Addis Ababa and outside the conference hall, all respect due to a head of state would be accorded to the honorable Chadian head of state, but during the national reconciliation talks with the opposing Chadian brothers he would be negotiating on an equal basis. He was also clearly informed that no emblem, including that of the OAU, would be shown and that the discussions would be chaired by the current chairman of the OAU with all sides sitting at a round table. These terms would in no way affect the legality of President Habre's government or jeopardize his government's membership in continental or international organizations.

The high-level delegation sent to Ndjamena was satisfied with President Habre's happy acceptance of the invitation extended to him by the current OAU chairman to come to Addis Ababa for national reconciliation talks, according to the request he had made to be present at the talks. The meeting was postponed from 21 December to 9 January.

The question of protocol, particularly the welcome to be accorded President Habre and the seating of participants in the reconciliation talks, was discussed with the honorable Idris Miskine, the former Chadian foreign minister, when he came to Addis Ababa in December and January and twice again 3 days before his sudden death. Detailed talks were held regarding the welcome for the president of Chad and seating in the conference hall. Full understanding was reached on these points.

One point where differences of opinion arose was the call made by Habre for an official invitation to be extended to the two factions based in Paris to participate in the talks. The two had not formerly been invited. At this (?time) it was explained to him why it was desired to limit the number of participants to those who had signed the Lagos agreement. It was explained that the office of the current chairman of the OAU had received numerous questions from previously unknown Chadian factions which desired to participate in the talks and claimed to represent various sides. These are based in West Africa, Europe, and the Middle East. Mr Miskine was informed that the two groups based in Paris were invited; if the five other factions, including the ones who arrived in Addis Ababa without invitations, were also to be invited, this would create unnecessary complications affecting the reconciliation talks. It was also reaffirmed that the question of the list of participants could be raised during the reconciliation talks and an agreement reached. It was also explained to him that the main aim of adhering to the Lagos agreement was to find a legal or acceptable way of deciding on the list of participants.

A message sent by the current chairman of the OAU on 7 January 1984 to President Habre emphasized that the meeting would basically be held between the delegations of the two opposing sides, the Chadian Government and opposing sides, and that the presence of the Chadian president at the meeting was very essential. The comrade chairman had previously assured the president of Chad through the president's special emissary regarding the completion of preparations to ensure the success of the meeting. That is, in understanding Hissein Habre to be the Chadian head of state, all the protocol preparations had been completed.

The comrade chairman expressed his belief that the president of Chad, being a leader genuinely concerned for the interest of the Chadian people, would not want the important question of national reconciliation, which should be given priority above all else, to be stalled over minor issues, as stated in the call made by the bureau meeting of the 19th OAU summit. The comrade chairman pointed out that if the absence of President Habre from the meeting was found to be an obstacle to the national reconciliation talks, it would find him responsible.

The opposition leaders led by Mr Goukouni Oueddei arrived in Addis Ababa to be present at this meeting in full awareness of the terms of this situation.

The fact that the Chadian Government delegation was not led by President Hissein Habre as expected, and that the delegation is being led by the minister of interior and security, Mr Tahar Guinassou, has created an obstacle to starting the meeting off on a successful note, even though the current chairman of the OAU has spoken to representatives of the central government and leaders of the opposition in turn, seeking spheres of agreement, so that the two opposing sides can sit around the round table and hold useful talks.

The opposition side strongly requested that the discussions be held according to previous procedures and that it should itself be regarded as equal in status to the other side, while the Chadian Government delegation presented preconditions regarding the legality of its government and its right to place the country's flag in front of it during the talks with the opposition team. The Chadian Government delegation called on the opposition team to accept the flag, which is the mark of this legality, be placed in front of the Chad Government delegation if the opposition desired to hold peace talks with it. The government delegation

declared that if this precondition was not accepted by the opposition team there could be no national reconciliation talks.

Meanwhile, the opposition team declared that the proposal by the Chadian Government delegation was unwarranted. The opposition argued that the proposal by the Chad Government delegation for the flag to be placed in front of it was a way of making it a precondition that the opposition accept the legality of the Chadian Government before discussion started on the major issues of the conference. Consequently, the opposition rejected this precondition proposed by the Chadian Government.

The current chairman of the OAU has held lengthy and (?satisfactory) talks with the leaders of the two factions so as to resolve this complicated situation, narrow the differences and get the two sides to start discussions.

The chairman first held talks with the Chadian Government delegation, underlining his efforts to get the two sides closer, and asked the leader of the delegation whether or not the Chad Government was willing to start national reconciliation talks in line with the resolutions of the 19th OAU leaders' bureau summit. Since the head of the Chad Government delegation rejected the proposal, the chairman put forward an alternative proposal that the head of the delegation, who is President Habre's representative, be accepted as the legal representative of the Chadian Government, and that it hold talks with the opposition without any flags. The Chadian Government delegation also rejected this alternative.

Owing to the problems created during the consultations, the current OAU chairman sent an urgent message to President Habre (?on) 10 January urging him to come to Addis Ababa and hold joint consultations on the efforts being made for the well-being of the Chadian people. The OAU chairman strongly pointed out in his message that his call, on behalf of the OAU, emanates solely from his sincere desire for a lasting peace in that country. In this message, the current chairman also gave an assurance that the legality of President Habre's government had never been in doubt, and added that his absence at the meeting had become the main obstacle to the successful holding of the meeting.

During his discussions with the Chadian Government delegation, the current chairman called on it to show willingness to start negotiations with the opposition team by choosing any of the following alternatives, and with the acknowledgement that it is the Chadian Government:

a. To hold discussions without any flags for the sake of advancing the creation of national unity and to prevent unnecessary conflicts.

b. To hold discussions with the OAU flag placed in front of the government delegation and the opposition team, as it is the mark of the unity of peoples of Africa.

c. To hold discussions with the Chadian flag placed at the center of the round table around which the government and opposition sides will sit, as the Chadian national flag belongs to all the peoples of Chad.

d. [Words indistinct] to hold discussions with the Chadian flag placed in front of the government delegation and the opposition's emblem in front of the opposition.

The Chadian Government delegation was unwilling to accept any of the alternatives put forward. However, the opposition side declared its willingness to hold discussions under any of the alternatives put forward.

Since the Chadian Government delegation was expected to be willing to hold fruitful discussions, it is unfortunate that it has rendered fruitless the great and persistant efforts made for many months with the aim of bringing about a national reconciliation among the peoples of Chad. It is regrettable that the Government of Chad was unwilling to meet the opposition, giving priority to minor issues and questions of protocol. Since President Habre's presence was expected to contribute greatly toward the success of the meeting, his absence is very regrettable. Nevertheless, the current chairman has declared his determination to continue his efforts to find a peaceful and lasting solution to the Chad problem. 12 January 1984

Habre Government Denies Responsibility

AB141310 Paris AFP in English 1208 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] Ndjamena, Jan 14 (AFP) — Chadian President Hissein Habre's government has denied responsibility for the failure of the peace conference in Chad that had been scheduled to take place in Addis Ababa this week under the auspices of the Organization of African Unity (OAU).

Chadian Information Minister Mahamat Soumaila said in a statement that Mr Habre did not attend the conference because of the "ceremonial welcome given to the rebels", a reference to ousted President Goukouni Oueddei's delegation.

The statement denounced the "complicity of the host country (Ethiopia) and the OAU Secretariat with Libya". Libyan troops are backing Mr Goukouni's forces holding northern Chad while Mr. Habre's French-backed forces control the south.

The Chadian Government also criticized the conference organizers for inviting only "the proteges of Tripoli," when Ndjamena had wanted the talks to be open to all the opponents of President Habre's regime.

Mengistu Seen 'Foiling' Conference

JN141904 Khartoum SUNA in English 1755 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] Ndjamena, Jan 14, (SUNA) — The Chadian Government has accused the Ethiopian President Mengistu Haile Mariam of foiling the Addis Ababa reconciliation talks between Chadian faction.

The Chadian Government dismissed as prejudiced and inaccurate the statement of President Mengistu about the absence of President Habre from the talks.

In a statement here today Chadian Information Minister Soumalia Mahamat said the sole cause of President Habre's absence is due to the exaggerated welcome given to rebel leader Goukouni Oueddei at his arrival to the Ethiopian capital.

Goukouni Blames US, France

NC140714 Paris AFP in English 0637 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Addis Ababa, Jan 14 (AFP) — France and the United States bear a heavy weight of responsibility for the failure of the Chadian peace talks here, the National Union Government (GUNT) faction of ousted President Goukouni Oueddei charged Friday night.

In a communique, the movement said the two countries' "money, arms, and troops are the sole foundation for the arrogance of the leader of the armed forces of the north" — a reference to current Chadian Government head, Hissein Habre.

Mr Habre stayed away from the abortive roundtable reconciliation talks staged by the Organisation of African Unity (OAU). The GUNT statement said that proved once more that he and his followers "prefer to live in Chad in a perpetual state of defiance and hostility".

Mr Habre's absence had "only served to show in the most eloquent way his submission to the dictates of his foreign partners," GUNT alleged. GUNT, which controls northern Chad with Libyan military help, called for the immediate withdrawal of the French and Zairian troops supporting Mr Habre's regime.

ALGERIA

Bendjedid Confers With PFLP, DFLP Leaders

LD151159 Algiers: APS in English 1005 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] Algiers, 15/84 (APS) — President Chadli Bendjedid, FLN secretary general, conferred yesterday with Palestinian leaders George Habash, secretary general of the Popular Front for Palestine Liberation (PFLP), and Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP). Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi attended the audience.

The Palestinian leaders arrived in Algiers on Thursday.

LIBYA

Libya Blames Tunisians for Pipeline Explosion

LD131333 Kuwait KUNA in English 1036 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Text] Tunis, Jan 13 (KUNA) — Libya has said that the blast which occurred in the trans-Tunisia-Algerian pipeline "was perpetrated by Tunisians, and a Tunisian car was used to implement the plan," a press report said here Friday.

The *AS' SABAH* newspaper said that Libya sent a memorandum in response to the note which Tunisia had presented to the Libyan Government, saying that the blast last week at Qulayb al-Anz check point, two km from the Libyan border, was carried out by Tunisians who penetrated Libyan territories then returned to the Tunisian border from another side to give the impression that the operation was implemented by Libya-based attackers.

The memorandum, according to the paper, has expressed Libya's readiness to carry out joint border patrols and to participate in mending the damages caused by the blast "not because of a guilty feeling, but to help the Tunisian economy."

The memorandum affirmed that "such an incident is harmful to the good and developed bilateral relations."

MAURITANIA

Haydala Receives Polisario Officials

AB150814 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] Yesterday, President Haydala granted an audience to Mr Mohamed Ould Salek, who is responsible for the Polisario's foreign relations.

The Polisario official, who was the bearer of a special message from Mohamed Abdelaziz, SDAR president and secretary general of the Polisario, told newsmen after the audience that the visit fell wihin the framework of the frequent dialogue and consultations between the SDAR and Mauritania. The northwestern part of Africa is now going through a new phase marked by mounting military tension,while the United Nations and the OAU have been expecting Morocco to make a move toward settlement of the conflict through direct negotiations in compliance with the resolutions of these two organizations, he said.

In conclusion, he said: President Mohamed Abdelaziz sent me to brief President Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala on the latest diplomatic and military developments in the region.

MOROCCO

Prime Minister Comments on Relations With U.S.

LD131533 Rabat MAP in English 1246 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Text] Casablanca, Jan 13 (MAP) — King Hassan II of Morocco received on Thursday afternoon in Casablanca the visiting delegation of American congressmen, representing the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Congress.

The meeting was attended by Moroccan Premier Mohamed Karim Lamrani and the ambassador of the United States to Rabat, Joseph Verner Reed.

Earlier, the U.S. delegation, headed by Mr Tom Lantos from the Democratic Party, held a meeting with Premier Karim Lamrani, during which he stressed the long-standing Moroccan-U.S. relations that have always been to the benefit of peace in the world.

Evoking the ideological, political and economic unrest the world is currently going through, Mr Lamrani stressed the need to reinforce Moroccan-U.S. friendship, and to consolidate further the two countries' cooperation in order to face this new situation.

Dealing with Morocco's economic problems, the prime minister recalled that they are the result of several factors: mainly the world economic crisis, the drought which had affected the country for three consecutive years, and more especially the unshakable willingness to safeguard the country's territorial integrity and liberty. This situation, he added, leads us to discuss with our partners from the United States the most efficient ways and means of overcoming this economic situation, which is not structural. In this respect, Mr Lamrani indicated that Morocco and the United States can cooperate in the political, military and economic areas.

Following the prime minister's address, reports on the economic situation in Morocco and on Morocco's bilateral and regional relations were made by the officials of these departments.

Afterwards, the U.S. delegation took part in a luncheon hosted in its honor by Premier Karim Lamrani.

The meeting was attended by some members of the Moroccan Cabinet as well as by the six ministers of state representing the Moroccan main political parties.

Besides Mr Lantos, the U.S. delegation included Mr Larry Winn (Republican), J.J. Pickle (Democrat), John Sieberling (Democrat), Bill Thomas (Republican), Tom Cloman (Republican), Bill Lawery (Republican), and Mark Siljander (Republican), as well as the U.S. ambassador to Rabat.

TUNISIA

'Shadow Government' Said Formed During Riots

LD131522 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1155 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Text] Tunis, 13 Jan [KUNA — A press report published here today said that former Tunisian Interior Minister Driss Guiga had formed a shadow governent under his personal leadership to replace the government of Mohamed Mzali. This reportedly occurred on the first day of the eruption of chaos in the Tunisian capital.

The independent weekly Tunisian paper *AL ILAN* cited unnamed informed sources saying that the Driss Guiga shadow government included Al-Mundhir ben Ammar, brother of the Tunisian president's wife; Wasilah Bourguiba, her cousin; opposition politician Hasib ben Ammar; the secretary general of the opposition Democratic Socialist Party, Ahmed Mistiri; former Finance Minister Azuz Lasram; and former Planning Minister Al-Bashir Naji al-Ma'ruf, who is known for his sympathy with opposition politician Ahmed Bensaleh, who is now living in exile. Guiga had ordered Minister of State for Interior Affairs Guidera to go to Mzali and ask him to resign, with his head up high, so that he is not expelled from power.

AL ILAN said that an unidentified Peugeot 504 was roaming the streets during the first day of unrest in the capital, distributing money to those who were taking part in the unrest and giving them instructions regarding the arson, destruction, looting, and robbing that had to be done.

President Bourguiba Receives PLO's 'Arafat

LD141226 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] President Habib Bourguiba this morning received PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, who later made the following statement:

I have had a fraternal meeting with his excellency the president during which I informed him of various developments affecting the Palestinian question and the Palestinian people in the hard times through which the Palestinian people and the Arab nation are now passing, as we approach the Islamic summit conference due to be held in 2 days' time in Morocco to discuss ways to confront the problems as one Islamic nation and Arab people.

The supreme combatant will leave for Morocco tomorrow in response to an invitation offered by King Hassan II through his special envoy, Ahmed Reda Guedira. The president will attend the meetings of the Islamic summit at Casablanca. He will be accompanied by a delegation consisting [words indistinct], Foreign Minister Beji Caid es-Sebsi, and Minister of Information Abderrazak Kefi.

Bourguiba on Arab Hopes, Plans in New Year

LD132126 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Text] An official ceremony took place at the Republican Palace in Carthage today, during which President Habib Bourguiba accepted greetings for 1984 from the heads of the diplomatic missions accredited to Tunisia.

Foreign Minister Beji Caid es-Sebsi spoke on behalf of the president on this occasion. First he thanked the diplomatic corps for their greetings and wishes and asked them to extend to their leaders his sincere greetings, and to extend to them and their fraternal and friendly peoples wishes for further prosperity. The great struggler expressed his optimism for the new year, because this optimism is the basis for faith in the future and is the basis for transforming hard times into prosperity.

The president said the new steps made by Tunisia along the road to progress during the past year are the best proof of the controversial relationship between hope and action. He expressed his belief that the creditability which we have won among the sisterly, friendly countries is primarily due to these factors. In this context, he thanked these countries for the growing trust they have shown in Tunisia and its people, and for their spontaneous readiness for free and fair cooperation in the achievement of our aspirations, and in the service of our joint interests.

The president noted the development of the Maghreb, and said it had been possible to give new life to the Maghreb idea,and here we are striving now to take this structure from the sphere of thought into the sphere of reality, insisting on consecutive steps leading to the completion of the building in order to make it a structure conforming to the requirements of the age and the needs of invulnerability in the full sense of the word. The great struggler called for dealing with the problems in the Middle East and the Gulf with wisdom, patience and perspicacity.

He said it hurts the soul of every Arab — or rather of every person who believes in justice and right — to see the affairs of the Palestinian revolution, which after many years of bitter struggle drew up for the world some possible means of settlement, end up in the state they have been in lately. Also, it hurts the soul of every Arab to see Arab solidarity with this revolution getting smaller and wavering because of the multiplicity of viewpoints and the contradiction of interests.

President Habib Bourguiba renewed the call for Palestinian brothers to fear God and make reason triumph over arbitrariness, thus sparing their blood and employing their energies in resisting their real enemy, which does not wish good for this group or that, but which harbors evil for all of them, one after the other, until it buries the Palestinian cause forever. He also urged the Arab brothers to (?renew) their support for the frank resolutions they made at the summit conference. Those resolutions impose on them solidarity with the Palestinian people.

The president highlighted the responsibility of the international community for the great historic injustice against the Palestinian people. He expressed his belief in the need to speed up settlement of the Lebanese problem on the basis of the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Lebanon and maintaining Lebanon's territorial integrity and complete sovereignty over all its territories. The great struggler spoke about the issue of disarmament and expressed regret at the mad race towards spending huge sums on armaments while hundreds die daily because of hunger and (word indistinct).

Oil Pipeline With Algeria Resumes Operation

LD141636 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] The minister of national economy has announced that the pumping of oil through the pipe linking Ain Amenas in Algeria and Skhira, which was recently sabotaged, has been resumed.

The renewed pumping of Algerian oil through Tunisian territory follows the repair of a 24-meter-long section that had been damaged.

WESTERN SAHARA

Polisario Guerrillas Clash With Moroccan Forces

NC161122 Paris AFP in English 1114 GMT 16 Jan 84

[Text] Algiers, Jan 16 (AFP) — Polisario guerrillas launched a "violent attack" Sunday on Moroccan forces in the region of Amgala in the northeast section of Western Sahara, killing 130, the Polisario said today.

A communique said Polisario had succeeded in opening a "breach" in a defensive belt recently established by the Moroccans to reinforce their "sand wall," protecting the main inhabited areas.

Polisario said that in a four-hour battle, 35 Moroccan vehicles and a large quantity of weapons of different calibres had been destroyed.

SDAR Calls for Morocco's Expulsion From OAU

EA141729 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1300 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Excerpt] The Saharan Democratic Arab Republic [SDAR] has called on African countries to expel Morocco from the Organization of African Unity as a result of its acts of violating the organization [as heard] and endangering the security of the continent.

Speaking to reporters in Dar es Salaam today, the republic's minister of foreign affairs, Ndugu Hakim Ibrahim, said Morocco, in seeking to stall the liberation of Africa, is behaving in the same way as the South African Boers. [passage indistinct]

Ndugu Hakim said Morocco has this year decided to build a wall 100 kilometers long, from north to south, to divide the Sahara (?into two parts) in order to hamper the liberation struggle. He said the decision of King Hassan of Morocco endangers the security of Algeria, Mauritania and other African countries, (?and transforms) the liberation war into an international war.

Ndugu Hakim said that as a result of this decision, the SDAR will not participate in the negotiations recommended by the OAU on solving the Western Sahara crisis [words indistinct].

ETHIOPIA

Mengistu, Nigeria's Buhari Exchange Greetings

New Government Lauded

EA132241 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Excerpt] A message sent to Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam by Major General Muhammadu Buhari, leader of Nigeria's Federal Military Government and the country's commander in chief, explains the changes in Nigeria and gives a broad account of the new government's domestic and foreign policies.

In a speech he made on receiving the message, Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam said that inasmuch as the government in power is seeking to eradicate the deeply rooted system of injustice and exploitation, the Ethiopian people and Government would accept it and those for whose sakes the changes had been made with their cooperation and support.

Our comrade revolutionary leader added that the ugly effects of the mishandling of Nigeria's manpower and economy in the interests of individuals are not only Nigeria's problem, but also Africa's. Accordingly, the victories of the new government and the advantages of the new democratic and just path it is pursuing will benefit not only the Nigerian people, but all Africans. He expressed the sincere belief that all the people of Nigeria would continue to fully support the changes and hailed the true sons of Nigeria who are in power.

SMC Delegation Delivers Message

EA132209 Addis Ababa in English to Neighboring Countries 1530 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Text] A Nigerian good-will delegation led by Navy Captain Ebeto Okiwe, member of the Supreme Military Council of Nigeria, arrived today to deliver a special message to Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam from Major General Muhammadu Buhari, head of the Federal Military Government of Nigeria. The delegation was welcomed at Bole International Airport by Comrade Addis Tedla, PMAC Standing Committee member, deputy chairman of the National Revolution Development Campaign and Central Planning Supreme Council and COPWE executive committee member; Comrade Goshu Wolde, minister of foreign affairs and COPWE Central Committee member; and Ambassador Blankson of Nigeria. Members of the delegation included Ambassador (Leslie Harriman), former chairman of the UN Special Committee Against Apartheid, and Mr (Onaie), deputy director in the Nigerian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Eritrean Rebels Occupy 'Strategic City'

GF151910 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1855 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 15 Jan (WAKH) — Uthman Muhammad Umar, representative of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Eritrea, has announced that the Front's troops yesterday occupied the strategic city of Teseney, which is situated at the Sudanese-Eritrean border, after fierce fighting against the Ethiopian occupation troops.

In a statement to the QNA correspondent in Abu Dhabi this evening, the Eritrean official recalled the political and military importance of this city. He said that details on the battle that was fought to occupy this city will be announced during the next few days and after getting more information.

EPLF Claims 13 Killed When Stronghold Taken

EA141917 (Clandestine) Voice of Tigre Revolution in Amharic to Ethiopia 1345 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] On [date indistinct], the heroic guerillas of the EPLF [Eritrean People's Liberation Front] attacked the Dergue force stronghold at (Adi Gebru), killing 13 enemy soldiers and wounding 5, and capturing 1 soldier, 1 Bren, 15 Kalashnikovs, other useful enemy property, and placing the shelter under their control.

KENYA

Minister of State Meets Ugandan Counterpart

EA132056 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Text] News just received says that the minister of state in the Office of the President, Mr Justice Ole Tipis, and his Ugandan counterpart, Mr Peter Othi, met in Nairobi today and discussed matters of mutual interest.

Among the issues discussed included those related to cattle rustling along the common border.

The two ministers observed and expressed satisfaction that previous meetings between representatives of the two countries had brought positive results, and established a strong framework for good relations between the two countries.

The two ministers reiterated their determination to deal with those elements which could subvert, disrupt, and undermine stability and security in the two countries.

The Ugandan minister expressed deep appreciation to his excellency President Daniel arap Moi for the kind hospitality accorded to the Ugandan delegation. He conveyed warm greetings from President Milton Obote to President Daniel arap Moi.

SOMALIA

Ethiopia Seen Promoting 'Instability' in Sudan

LD132112 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Excerpts] The instability and tension Ethiopia has been stirring up in Sudan have damaged bilateral relations; that is the topic of

our commentary written by Ali Muhammad Abdullahi and read by Abdi Nur Shaykh Issaq.

The leader of the land of Abyssinia, Colonel Mengistu Haile Mariam, while bearing the title and honor of chairman of the OAU, repeatedly violated the integrity and sovereignty of a number of African countries.

The chairmanship of the OAU carries a great weight of responsibility and respect in the eyes of the countries of Africa, for the chairman must work to create a peaceful and friendly atmosphere among the member states and may not stir up conflicts and tension within the continental body.

Many African countries regarded Mengistu as an ally of the leader of international terrorism, which is why several OAU member states argued that Mengistu could not and would not be an impartial chairman and would therefore lead the continent into a state of constant instability and friction. The worries and doubts expressed by some of Africa's wise and experienced statesmen have now come out into the open.

Having provocatively but unsuccessfully attacking the SDR and Sudan, he has now started interfering directly in the internal affairs of Chad.

Toward the end of 1983 Sudan accused the Abyssinian regime of assembling its forces along their common border. This worried the Sudanese Government to the extent of saying that the Ethiopians were interfering directly in the internal affairs of Sudan, particularly in the light of Ethiopian moral and material support to the dissidents in southern Sudan. When the president of the Republic of Sudan, Ja'far Muhammad Numayri, was on an official visit to the United States in November, he accused Abyssinia of direct interference in Sudan's internal affairs and warned that this could serve to bring about a deterioration of relations between the two countries.

Since then the relations between the two countries have been cooling very rapidly, with the result that in the end they recalled their respective ambassadors.

Abyssinia, which has damaged the relations between the two countries, is now pretending to have made great efforts to improve them. The truth is that the so-called government in Abyssinia has never honestly and sincerely worked for brotherly relations between the two countries. The spurious intention and steps taken by Abyssinia towards improving relations with Sudan were only meant to deceive world public opinion. Whatever efforts the Abyssinian regime has appeared to make to improve relations with Sudan have already been proved to be nothing but lip service. Accordingly, whatever action Sudan takes to safeguard its sovereignty and territorial integrity are justified.

At the end of 1983, the Sudanese Government said that Abyssinia was directly supporting the antigovernment elements in southern Sudan. The Sudanese Government also said that the Abyssinian government was not only supplying arms and ammunition to the rebels but had also opened training military camps for them in an effort to topple President Numayri's government.

There is no doubt that relations between Sudan and Abyssinia will deteriorate further, for as long as the Abyssinian leaders persist in their attempts to topple the Sudanese Government, habor dissidents, and nurse ill will against Sudan, while pretending to be friendly; for as long as Abyssinian troops remain assembled along the common border with sophisticated weapons acquired to threaten regional peace and stability, the Sudanese Government and people will not trust the Abyssinian government.

The Sudanese Government has declared that it will not harbor dissidents against any state and will not maintain good relations with any country which harbors anti-Sudanese elements. The Sudanese Government has also said that it will not tolerate the friction the Ethiopians are stirring up in Sudan, especially in terms of security.

In spite of the fact that blame lies full square on the Abyssinians, there is little doubt that the policies of the Kremlin and Libyan economic aid are also playing a major part in promoting the deterioration of Ethiopia-Sudanese relations.

The new year talks to defuse the tension and friction in Chad between its legitimate government led by President Habre and the rebels led by Oueddei, which opened in the Abyssinian capital recently, have collapsed.

The 19th session of the OAU unanimously recognized Habre as the legitimate president of Chad. The OAU suggested that all the factions of the people of Chad should meet and solve their problems.

Unfortunately, Abyssinia, while its leader Mengistu Haile Mariam remains the chairman of the OAU, has unilaterally recognized Oueddei's rebels. This means that Mengistu has decided to recognize another government in Chad, so there are now two Chadian governments — the legitimate government led by Habre, which has been recognized by the OAU, and the rebel government of Oueddei, which Ethiopia and Libya have recognized.

The question is: Who is responsible for the collapse of the OAU talks at the OAU Headquarters? The answer is that the collapse of the meeting is the work of the Abyssinian regime, because it abused the name and reputation of the OAU chairmanship by according red-carpet and head-of-state treatment to the rebel Oueddei. The Abyssinian regime placed the legitimate president of Chad and a rebel leader who did not deserve a presidential welcome on an equal footing.

Ethiopia's abuse of the OAU chairmanship has the support of Libya, because, as we know, Libya supports the rebel leader Oueddei, who has managed to get a foothold in Chadian territory with Libyan help.

The policy of the OAU is to defuse friction, tension, and misunderstanding among the OAU member states, but Mengistu Haile Mariam has fanned a fire instead. This means that Mengistu Haile Mariam has abused the chairmanship of the OAU to serve the interests of others who care nothing for the OAU.

Finally, like the SDR, Sudan remains vigilant. Mengistu and his backers will fail to trap Sudan into becoming a puppet regime at the beck and call of Mengistu and those whose policies and money keep him in power in Ethiopia.

Soldiers Mutiny Rather Than 'Massacre' Civilians

EA142042 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Summary] A report reaching us from Laas Caanood district, Nugaal region, in Somalia, says soldiers from the Ninth Brigade of the 26th Division of the Somali Army have mutinied.

The report says there was heavy fighting at several camps in Laas Caanood District that resulted in the death of the commander of the Ninth Brigade, 'Abd al-Fatah Jama Amir. Major confrontations continue among the various camps of the loyalist troops in northern Somalia, the report says. The mutiny was predicted by the 10 officers who sought political asylum from the U.S. Government recently.

The report says the troops mutinied when they were forced to massacre innocent people and commit such acts as blowing up water troughs, poisoning wells, filling wells with sand, and burning houses and crops. The troops and their families had also been subjected to ill treatment.

Drug Dispute Claims Casualties

EA142038 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] Reports reaching us from the northwest region of Somalia says that forces loyal to Siad Barre fought among themselves over kat, and on three occasions the soldiers exchanged fire along the road between (Kalabeir) and Hargeysa, where six soldiers died.

The loyalist troops of Siad Barre, who are now busy selling and transporting kat, have inflated the cost of transporting between (Kalabeir) and Hargeysa to 100,000 Somali shillings.

TANZANIA

Nigerian Supreme Military Council Delegation Visits

EA141907 Dar es Salaam External Service in English 1600 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] A three-man delegation of the ruling Nigerian Supreme Military Council arrived in Dar es Salaam today to deliver a special message to President Nyerere from the new Nigerian leader, Major General Muhammadu Buhari. The delegation, led by Navy Captain Ebeto Okiwe, was met by the principal secretary to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ndugu Gilman Rutihinda; the director of Africa and Middle East in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ndugu Raphael Korosso; and the Nigerian high commissioner to Tanzania, Mr Richard Egbuziem.

The Nigerian high commissioner said that the delegation had delivered similar messages to Ethiopian leader Ndugu Mengistu Haile Mariam, and it is scheduled to deliver messages to President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia and President Daniel arap Moi of Kenya.

The delegation will fly to Dodoma tomorrow to deliver the message to Mwalimu, who will be attending a meeting of the Party's Central Committee on Monday.

Nigerian Envoy Discusses Buhari Coup With Nyerere

EA152215 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1700 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] Dodoma President Nyerere today received a special message from the Nigerian military leader, Major General Muhammadu Buhari. The message was presented by the head of a three-man Nigerian delegation, Captain Okiwe, in Dodoma.

Speaking to newsmen at Dodoma airport before leaving for Dar es Salaam, Capt Okiwe said that more than 99 percent of the Nigerian population supports the overthrow of the civilian government of Shehu Shagari 2 weeks ago.

Capt Okiwe accused the administration of President Shagari of corruption. He said that the administration won last year's elections illegally. He said the Nigerian economy was in a bad state and that the government of President Shagari failed to pay the country's debts and the salaries of a large number of civil servants.

Capt Okiwe said the Armed Forces were forced to assume power after leaders who were involved in corruption in the former government of President Shagari were reappointed to positions of leadership in the new government elected in August 1983. He said that the new Nigerian military government will continue to support liberation struggles in southern Africa.

Capt Okiwe has presented a similar message to the Ethiopian leader, Ndugu Mengistu Haile Mariam, and is expected to go to Zambia and Kenya.

BURUNDI

President Bagaza Chairs Central Committee Session

EA131615 Bujumbura Domestic Service in French 1100 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Summary] The 16th ordinary meeting of the Unity for National Progress Party Central Committee began this morning today under the chairmanship of President Bagaza, who is also president of the party.

On the agenda were an examination of policy on transport, posts and telecommunications, a review of policy on justice, and an analysis of the party's and allied movements' general program for 1984.

This morning, the president presented a report on the main activities of the party and government since the 15th Central Committee meeting. The contents of this report and the results of the meeting will be announced later.

CAMEROON

President Biya Reelected in Near-Unanimous Vote

NC151643 Paris AFP in English 1629 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] Yaounde, Jan 15 (AFP) — Cameroonian President Paul Biya has been reelected president with 99.98 per cent of the vote in yesterday's elections, the Ministry of Territorial Administration announced here today. The ministry said the results were "almost final", as only two provincial districts had not yet announced details of the count, which would not change the total percentage calculated.

CHAD

Threat of Large-Scale Offensive 'Disappears'

LD152207 Paris International Service in French 2115 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] In Chad the threat of a large-scale offensive by the forces of the GUNT [Transitional National Union Government] and Libya in the territory's northeast has totally disappeared. This was learned today from French military sources in Arada, a small locality where the most advanced elements of the Manta operation are based. I remind you that at the end of last month a column of vehicles belonging to the troops of Goukouni Oueddei were making an advance not far from the town of Iriba, not far from the Sudanese border. Having been reassured thus on this point, the Chadian and French staffs, on the other hand, now fear raids or acts of terrorism against their positions.

On the subject of Chad, Pierre Mauroy once again indicated during his visit to Senegal that France is very sorry that the reconciliation meeting in Addis Ababa did not take place. He furthermore said he considered that a lasting and peaceful solution cannot be found in Chad without the participation of all the protagonists.

Ambassador to France Reacts to Failure of OAU Talks

LD131523 Paris International Service in French 1245 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Excerpts] It has been almost certain since yesterday afternoon, but it was only officially recognized this morning, that all attempts to launch the Chad reconciliation conference in Addis Ababa — a much-awaited conference — have failed.

We now present a first, immediate reaction from the Chadian ambassador in Paris, Mr Allam-Mi, interviewed by Christian Bonner:

[Begin Allam-Mi recording] Personally, I would say quite simply that it is inadmissible, even unacceptable, that the president of the OAU and the Secretariat should put the blame for the failure on the Chad Government, because what is the problem? The problem is the legitimacy — or lack of legitimacy — of the Chadian Government. It is a basic problem which was settled by the conference of the OAU heads of state in Addis Ababa last year. There is no question of going back over this established right. It is not for the Presidency nor for the General Secretariat to question this right. If the opposition questions it, that is understandable, but not the Presidency of the OAU nor the General Secretariat. So it is absurd to say that the responsibility falls on Ndjamena. The responsibility is down to a lack of preparation perhaps, and at the same time, to the intransigence of the opposition [words indistinct] in Libya led by Goukouni Oueddei. In fact, from the beginning we feared that our legitimacy would suffer, and we said clearly to the countries organizing the conference and to the OAU that it was out of the question for our legitimacy to be questioned. We fear and this is what has in fact happened — a maneuver by Libya aimed at giving a platform to the opposition, a platform that it needed for it to be revived. This is what has happened. [end recording]

Goukouni Calls on France To Withdraw Troops

AB141117 Paris AFP in English 1103 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] Addis Ababa, Jan 14 (AFP) — Ousted Chadian President Goukouni Oueddei, who heads the Transitional Government of National Union (GUNT), today repeated demands that France should withdraw its troops from Chad.

He accused the former colonial power of not wanting peace or a negotiated settlement for the central African state. If France did not pull out, GUNT would be "obliged to resort to legitimate defences", he warned.

Speaking at a news conference following the abortive peace talks on Chad staged here by the Organization of African Unity (OAU), Mr Goukouni said Chadian President Hissein Habre, whom he repeatedly referred to as leader of the armed forces of the north, has stayed away from the talks because "he was under France's protection". Mr Habre, who ousted Mr Goukouni from power in Ndjamena 18 months ago and whose regime has de facto OAU recognition, stayed [words indistinct] riv . by OAU chairman if France had genuinely wanted solution to the Chadian conflict, it could have persuaded Mr Habre to attend, Mr Goukouni said.

He insisted that GUNT was the legal government of Chad, formed under the 1979 Lagos Accord and representing 11 factions and "all the Chadian people".

Rejection of its legitimacy could lead to the "danger of a permanent crisis" in the OAU, Mr Goukouni warned.

The GUNT leader thanked the OAU chairman for his "energetic" efforts to get the talks here moving but blamed the Habre side for ignoring the sufferings of the Chadian people.

In a statement yesterday, GUNT said France and the United States bore the brunt of the responsibility for the failure of the peace talks.

The two countries' "money, arms, and troops are the sole foundation for the arrogance of the leader of the armed forces of the north," Mr Goukouni said.

The GUNT leader left the Ethiopian capital for northern Chad shortly after the news conference.

CONGO

British Trade Group Holds Talks With Sassou-Nguesso

AB141430 Brazzaville Domestic Service in French 1230 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Colonel Denis Sassou-Nguesso, head of state, received two political and economic personalities this morning. The first meeting was with the British secretary for commerce and industry, Mr Fletcher. After his meeting with the head of state, Mr Fletcher told Bernadette Linda that he was impressed by the realistic Congolese economic policy.

[Begin recording in English followed by French translation] [Fletcher] I believe that my government and yours can now work together and that the United Kingdom can help in a number of projects in the city here and in other parts of the country — projects that are of great importance to the people of the Congo — and we are very happy to have this cooperation.

I thank you for the welcome given me by the Congolese people. I visited Brazzaville and towns in the interior where I held discussions with the Congolese authorities. I was especially impressed by the realistic Congolese economic policy and I am convinced that our two governments will have very good relations of cooperation in several fields.

[Bernadette] Mr Secretary of State, when you arrived in Brazzaville on 9 January 1984, you told the press that you would discuss a certain number of very important issues with the Congolese authorities. What are these issues and were they discussed?

[Fletcher] Yes, in fact, we tried to examine the projects Congo is particularly interested in, but I think it is not my duty to choose these projects to be implementaed. I think it is the duty of the Congolese authorities to choose them at the end of my visit.

[Bernadette] Mr Secretary of State, you were accompanied on this working visit by a certain number of British businessmen. What can be expected of them at the end of your visit?

[Fletcher] Yes indeed, I was accompanied by a certain number of British businessmen, among whom are an industrialist who specializes in the building of railway equipment, a specialist in the building of hospitals and a palm produce industrialist. In fact all these details will be contained in the final communique. [end recording]

Meanwhile, the British secretary of state for commerce and industry will leave Brazzaville this evening, but before then a final communique on his 5-day visit to the Congo will be issued.

ZAIRE

Government Said To Blame USSR for Airport Explosion

AB132045 Paris AFP in French 1851 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Text] Paris, 13 Jan (AFP) — Suitcases containing explosives and unloaded from the Soviet airline "Aeroflot" exploded last Wednesday at the Kinshasa airport, destroying part of the Customs Department building and all the suitcases that were unloaded there, the Zairian news agency, AZAP, report received in Paris announced on Friday.

The police are presently holding five suspects — two northern Chadians, two Malians, and one Zairian — for questioning in connection with the explosion. AZAP specifies that some of the suspects have recently undergone military training in Libya.

Following this explosion, which did not claim any lives, the Government of Zaire plans to review the flight agreement which authorizes "Aeroflot" planes to land in Kinshasa, the last stopover in a flight schedule Moscow-Vienna-Tripoli-Lagos-Kinshasa, AZAP indicates.

According to the government news agency, the Zairian Government is blaming the Soviet company for loading the suitcases containing the explosives in Lagos, whereas the Soviet-Zairian flight agreement stipulates that on the Lagos-Kinshasa line, the Soviet airline has no right to take passengers. It simply makes a technical stopover in Lagos.

USSR Envoy Delivers Supreme Soviet Resolution

AB141330 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 1800 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Excerpts] Citizen Nzondomyo A'Dokpe Lingo, the president of the Legislative Council, granted an audience this morning to Soviet Ambassador Ivan Marchuk, who delivered a resolution of the USSR Supreme Soviet. Here is Foudou Mudaye with the details:

[Begin recording] As a matter of fact, a resolution by the USSR Supreme Soviet was handed over to the president of the Legislative Council. It touches on the foreign situation and USSR foreign policy.

In addition to that resolution, the president of the Legislative Council and the Soviet ambassador held a lengthy exchange of views on cooperation between Zaire and the Soviet Union. Talking about the Euromissile negotiations, the Soviet diplomat stated that his country was not responsible for the deadlock in the Geneva talks. For the negotiations to resume, he said, the U.S. Pershing II missiles should not be deployed in order to safeguard the balance of power. [end recording]

Israeli President Herzog To Arrive 18 Jan
AB130945 Paris AFP in English 0748 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Text] Kinshasa, Jan 13 (AFP) — Israeli President Hayim Herzog is to make an official six-day visit to Zaire from January 18, government radio reported here Thursday. His visit will be the third by an Israeli Government member since the two countries restored diplomatic relations in May 1982. The previous two visits were by then Defense Minister 'Ariel Sharon, now minister without portfolio, and then Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir, now prime minister.

New Ambassador to Israel Presents Credentials
AB132120 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1650 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Text] Tel Aviv, 12 Jan (AZAP) — The new Zairian ambassador to Israel, Citizen Ngbanda Nzambo-Ko-Atumba, presented his credentials on Thursday to Israeli President Hayim Herzog. The ceremony was followed by a short discussion between the Israeli president and Ambassador Ngbanda.

Citizen Ngbanda will on Friday pay a courtesy call on the Israeli prime minister, Yitzhak Shamir.

Citizen Ngbanda succeeds Citizen Mbuze Nsomi Lobanabi.

GUINEA

President Leaves for Morocco ICO Summit 14 Jan

AB151357 Conakry Domestic Service in French 0915 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Excerpt] President Ahmed Sekou Toure left Conakry yesterday afternoon at the head of a high-level official delegation of the state-party for Morocco where our leader will participate in the fourth summit meeting of heads of state and sovereigns of member-states of the Islamic Conference Organization scheduled to open on Monday, 16 January 1984.

Soviet Aid for Earthquake Victims Arrives

AB130953 Conakry Domestic Service in French 1945 GMT 12 Jan 84

[Excerpt] The regular Aeroflot flight to Conakry this afternoon brought a consignment of blankets and food items, a gift from the Soviet Red Cross. The Soviet ambassador to Guinea received the consignment and presented it to the national committee for solidarity with the earthquake victims. This is the second donation made by the Soviet Red Cross to the Gaoual victims.

This morning the USSR ambassador to Guinea, Vladimir Kitayev, and his wife handed over a donation by the Committee of Soviet Women to the National Committee of the Revolutionary Union of Guinean Women. The consignment is made up different kinds of toys for children, sewing machines, assorted goods, medical equipment, and many other things.

On this occasion the Soviet ambassador to Guinea expressed satisfaction with the ties of friendship existing between the women's unions of the two countries. The good relations between the two organizations are manifest in all sectors of the economic, political, social, and cultural lives, stressed the Soviet diplomat, who added that the women of the USSR will always support the women of Guinea in their task of building the society.

IVORY COAST

Interior Ministry Bans Muslim Publication

AB141420 Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French 12 Jan 84 p 5

["Publication Hit by Ban"]

[Text] Following the publication of the brochure entitled "Islam and Muslims in the Ivory Coast", we have received from the Ministry of Interior this ministerial decree banning the publication:

Article 1 — The introduction, circulation, sale, distribution and display in public places of the illustrated brochure "Islam and Muslims in the Ivory Coast" by Ivorian student Abderamane Kone, are prohibted throughout the territory of the Ivory Coast.

Article 2 — Existing copies and their reproduction will undergo administrative seizure.

Article 3 — Violations to the present ministerial decree, which will be published in the *OFFICIAL GAZETTE* of the Republic of the Ivory Coast, will be prosecuted under Article 14 of the Law of 29 July 1881, modified by the Decree Act of 6 May 1939.

LIBERIA

Eastman Assesses Foreign Service Needs, Economy

AB131248 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0655 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Text] The present state of the Liberian economy has been described by Foreign Minister T. Ernest Eastman as far from satisfactory. He said operational funds should be used sparingly. Minister Eastman, who is in Europe taking a critical look at the foreign service, said the People's Redemption Council government is determined to weed out of the service all those contentious elements who, he said, are the cause of continuing disharmony. He called on Liberian diplomats in Europe to encourage investors to come to Liberia to help improve Liberia's economic activities. Minister Eastman said this will help alleviate the acute financial burden which confronts the government.

During Mr Eastman's meeting with ambassadors and other diplomats in Paris, he dwelt on four principal things: the Liberian foreign service's objectives, the need for harmony and cooperation of the missions abroad, the state of affairs of the Liberian economy, and how it affects the missions. He also discussed the role of the honorary counsels in their relations to the diplomatic missions.

Trial of Alleged Coup Plotters Continues

AB141440 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1200 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] As the trial of the alleged coup plotters continues at the Special Military Tribunal at the Temple of Justice, three new faces have appeared in court apparently in connection with the coup. According to the *SUNDAY OBSERVER*, the three men who are said to be security personnel say they were arrested in Guinea and brought to Monrovia by the security forces. They are Staff Sergeant Jakpawu Ossomo and Lieutenant (?Aldous) Swuar, both soldiers, and Jefferson Duli, an immigration officer.

When the chairman of the tribunal, Major General Alfred (Gayflor) was asked, according to the paper, he stated: I don't know. But the prosecution in an interview said the three men appear in court in connection with the coup plot.

Israeli President To Visit Zaire, Liberia

AB131240 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0655 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Text] Reports from Israel say the Israeli President, Hayim Herzog, is to visit Zaire and Liberia. The president, who is

expected to be in Africa for 7 days, leaves Israel next Tuesday. He was also due to visit Swaziland but that has been postponed till later this year. This is the first visit to Africa within 20 years by an Israeli president.

MALI

President Leaves for Morocco ICO Summit 15 Jan

AB151355 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Excerpt] The fourth summit of the Islamic Conference Organization [ICO] will begin in Casablanca, Morocco, tomorrow. General Moussa Traore, the president of the republic, who will take part in the summit, left Bamako this morning for Morocco.

Meanwhile Foreign Minister Alioune Blonding Beye is already in Morocco where he took part in the preparations for the ICO summit. The deliberations of the ministerial conference ended last night in Rabat.

NIGERIA

Cabinet Appointments To Be Released Next Week

AB131820 Paris AFP in English 1703 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Text] Lagos, Jan 13 (AFP) — The membership of Nigeria's new Cabinet, to be appointed by the Supreme Military Council which seized power December 31, will not be released until early next week, an official source said here today. Agreement has already been reached on most of the portfolios, and the people concerned have been summoned to a meeting next Monday, a reliable source said.

The new Cabinet could be sworn in on Wednesday, the source added. In another development, sources said a planned visit to Lagos by Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure had been cancelled. No explanation was given for the cancellation, but Mr. Sekou Toure had reportedly planned to plead with Nigeria's new leaders in favour of deposed President Shehu Shagari.

Meanwhile, the press here has reported that former Senate leader Joseph Wayas, who is being sought by Nigeria's new rulers for alleged corruption, fled the country for the United States in the company of a television journalist after the coup. The Nigerian daily newspaper *PUNCH* said that Mr. Wayas, a member of Mr. Shagari's National Party of Nigeria, married the journalist in London four days ago.

Meanwhile, Major-General B.Y. Bali, defence minister in the Supreme Military Council, left here yesterday for neighbouring Benin as part of a tour of west African states. Members of the military council toured on Wednesday and Thursday major Army garrisons throughout Nigeria to explain the reasons for the military coup.

Gen Babangida on Military's 'New Year Present'

NC141748 Paris AFP in English 1743 GMT 14 Jan 84

[By Edward Poultney]

[Text] Lagos, Jan 14 (AFP) — Nigeria's Armed Forces considered staging a coup last July but eventually decided to let elections the following month go ahead, Army Commander Major General Ibrahim Babangida said here today.

Gen Babangida, a central figure in the military government which overthrew civilian president Shehu Shagari two weeks ago, told AFP that the Armed Forces became concerned about developments in Nigeria as early as 1981, two years after they handed over to a civilian government and went back to barracks following 13 years in power.

It was "politically expedient" to let the elections go ahead, he said. "We were trying to test democracy."

"Next time maybe they will turn round and say maybe we didn't allow them to hold free and fair elections. But by the time the elections were over it was evident that there was a frustration within society".

Gen Babangida said that "things started really going wrong in the middle of 1981, then it got worse in 1982 and hopeless in 1983.

The Army commander said that Mr Shagari had been told that there was likely to be a coup around January 3.

But the Army went into action on December 31. "We wanted to give the country a New Year's present," he said. The return of the military was greeted with rejoicing throughout Nigeria, where the ordinary people suffered severe hardships under the corrupt civilian regime.

Gen Babangida said that rumours that the coup was a pre-emptive operation by senior officers to counter similar plans by their juniors were unfounded.

The Nigerian officer corps "is a very cohesive organisation", he said. "The younger officers look on us for purposeful leadership. They will support any action we do," he said.

A return to civilian rule had yet to be discussed and the only real priority was to solve this oil-exporting country's huge economic problems after four years of serious mismanagement.

"It is too early to come up with a rough time-table", he said.

The military government is trying to recover vast sums of money known to have been diverted abroad during the civilian period, and Gen Babangida said that "from five or six principals of the last administration we should be able to raise a billion naira (1.5 billion dollars).

Asked about the fate of Mr Shagari, who is in detention along with several hundred lesser members of his administration, Gen

Babangida said that "you cannot absolve the leader from the behaviour of his supporters".

Investigations still underway would show whether Mr Shagari was corrupt or merely weak.

Gen Babangida revealed that there would be eight or nine officers in the still unannounced Federal Executive Council of government ministers, including two members of the 19-member Supreme Military Council. He mentioned the names of soldier-poet Major General Mamman Vatsa and Brigadier Mohamed Magoro.

He said there was no resistance to the New Year's Eve coup.

The death of Brigadier Ibrahim Bako, the officer delegated to inform Mr Shagari of his overthrow was "a natural thing" given the responsibility of the guards surrounding the civilian president whose primary duty was to ensure Mr Shagari's safety.

Gen Babangida made it clear that the new rulers, many of whom were involved in a coup in 1975 against the military government of Gen Yakubu Gowon, knew the risk involved when the Armed Forces were in power.

If policies were inappropriate then responsibilities had to be accepted, and reaction could also come from civilians.

"If we fail or we are not able to perform there are cases in history when civilians used sticks and stones and got the military out of office," he said. "But we hope it will not happen."

Buhari Attends Armed Forces Day Observances
AB151436 Lagos NAN in English 1418 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] Lagos, Jan 15 (NAN) — Activities marking this year's Armed Forces Remembrance Day were rounded off throughout the country today.

In Lagos, the head of state, Maj-Gen Muhammadu Buhari, laid a wreath at the remembrance arcade, Tafawa Belewa Square, in memory of soldiers who lost their lives in the service of the nation and during the two world wars. At the arcade, Gen Buhari inspected a guard of honour mounted by a detachment of the brigade of guards and some ex-servicemen. Highlights of the ceremony included the offer of prayers for the repose of the souls of dead soldiers and the observation of two minute of silence in their memory. There was also a gun salute by the Nigerian Army artillery and the release of pigeons, symbolising peace.

The chief of staff Supreme Headquarters, Brig. Tunde Idiagbon, the minister of defence, Maj-Gan D.Y. Bali, service chiefs, the secretary to the Federal Military Government, Mr Gray Longe, the chief justice of the federation, Mr Justice George Sowemimo, members of the diplomatic corps as well as traditional rulers were among those who witnessed the ceremony.

In a sermon at an interdenominational service to mark the occasion, the Rev. I.O Ude of the Partriach Methodist church, Tinubu, urged the Federal Military Government to shun dishonest civilian advisers lurking around to be considered for appointments. He said that this was necessary to avoid the mistakes made by bad advisers in the ousted government. He said that he was convinced that the entire members of the Armed Forces had enough patriotic and honest officers who could help to bring sanity to the nation. The Rev. Ude said that the new administration could not afford to fail the nation now that the country was "sick and Nigerians are tired of the sickness."

The minister of defence, Maj-Gen Domkat Bali, read the only lesson at the service during which three minutes of silence was also observed in memory of the dead soldiers.

In Kano, the military governor, Air Commodore Hamza Abdullahi, appealed to members of the state branch of the Nigerian Legion to sink their differences and face the task of national development and their welfare. He assured them that the government would continue to provide them with more job opportunities. Air Commodore Abdullahi called on the younger generation to emulate the examplary manner in which the dead soldiers lived, fought and died in search of peace and harmony.

In Owerri, the military governor, Brig Ike Nwachukwu, attended an open-air interdenominational service at the multipurpose hall. The governor read the only lesson of the service, and inspected a guard of honour mounted by a detachment of the 32d Artillery Brigade, and members of the Nigerian Legion. Governor Nwachukwu laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldiers.

The commander of the 32d Artillery Brigade, Col Isa Ahmed, assistant commissioner of police, Mr B.A. Oke, and the chairman of the state branch of the Nigerian Legion, Lt Col Anthony Agonsi also laid wreaths.

Delegation Assures UK on Future Ties
AB140854 Paris AFP in English 0404 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] London, Jan 14 (AFP) — A delegation from Nigeria's new regime gave assurances here Friday about the military government's intentions, at a meeting with British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe. A Foreign Office communique said the delegation "gave assurances that the new government wished the full range of relations with the United Kingdom and the international community to continue".

The delegation said "they were aware of public concern in the U.K. about military action against a democratically elected government, and of the expectation that those detained, including ex-President Shagari, would be treated fairly." The delegation was told of Britain's "willingness to help, in concert with others, Nigeria's efforts to resolve her current economic and financial difficulties," the communique said.

Defense Minister Takes Message to Niger's Kountche
AB130943 Lagos NAN in English 0746 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Text] Ikeja, Jan 12 (NAN) — A three-man delegation led by the minister of defence, Maj Gen Domkat Bali, left Lagos today for Niger Republic to deliver a special message to that country's

president. The delegation is expected back in Lagos today.

Maj Gen Bali, who disclosed this, told the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) at Murtala Muhammed Airport that the office of the chief of Defense Staff was being phased out under the present military regime. He said that most of the staff of the office would be absorbed by the office of the chief of staff Supreme Headquarters.

Public Sale of Hoarded Commodities Scheduled

AB132145 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Large quantities of some essential commodities which were hoarded by traders are to be sold to members of the public in Lagos tomorrow on the orders of the state military governor, Group Captain Boloho Mudashiru. Clement Akitomide has the details.

[Begin recording] The commodities were found locked up in some warehouses in the state. They include rice, sugar, tires, and feed. The public sale will start tomorrow at 0930 and will continue each day until commodities have been disposed of. [end recording]

Former NPN Secretary General in Military Custody

AB141057 Lagos NAN in English 1005 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] Lagos, Jan 13 (NAN) — The secretary general of the banned National Party of Nigeria (NPN), Alhaji Uba Ahmed, is "still under protective military custody" in Lagos, authoritative military sources told the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) in Lagos today.

Contrary to speculations in newspapers that Alhaji Uba Ahmed had escaped from military custody and had travelled abroad, the sources said: "There is no truth in the reported escape of Alhaji Uba Ahmed." Alhaji Uba Ahmed returned to the country on Dec 31, the day the military took over the administration of President Shehu Shagari. He had since then been in the custody of the military authorities, the sources said.

PRP Chairman Not Surprised by Military Takeover

AB130940 Lagos NAN in English 0730 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Text] Ikeja, Jan 12 (NAN) — The chairman of the banned PRP [People's Redemption Party], Alhaji Hassan Yussuf, today in Ikeja said that the present generation of Nigerians would not experience democracy as long as their political representatives refused to learn from the mistakes of the past.

He told newsmen shortly after reporting himself to the police that the behavior of politicians in the last regime did not show that they had learned from history.

He said that the military takeover was not a surprise to him because the civilian administration was insensitive to the sufferings of the people.

Alhaji Hassan urged the military administration to quickly enact programs that would make basic necessities available.

Police Detain Former NAP Leader Braithwaite

AB141058 Lagos NAN in English 1045 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] Lagos, Jan 13 (NAN) — The leader of the banned National Advance Party (NAP) Mr Tunji Braithwaite, today was brought to the State Police Command at Ikeja under armed police escort.

Mr Braithwaite, who was taken from his office at about 12 noon, spent about an hour "chatting" with the police before he left in his car. He told newsmen later that the police arrived in his office demanding his passport, party assets and his presence before the state police commissioner. He said that he had earlier explained in a letter to the command that he could not report to the police on the basis of newspaper reports. He added that his passport and the accounts of his party had already been deposited with the police pointing out that there was no need for him to report at the command again.

The police public relations officer, Mr Alozie Ogugbuaja, however, denied any knowledge of the letter.

New Regime Not To Interfere With Local Chiefs

AB141433 Lagos NAN in English 1430 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] Benin, Jan 14 (NAN) — The Bendel military governor, Brig Jeremiah Useni, said in Benin on Thursday that the head of state and commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces had directed military governors not to interfere with the choice of chiefs by the various traditional rulers in the country.

Brig Useni disclosed this while exchanging views with representatives of the Olu of Warri who paid him a courtesy call in his office. The governor said that he would soon begin a tour of all the local government areas in Bendel, adding that he would then visit traditional rulers in their respective domains.

The chiefs said that they had come on behalf of the Olu of Warri, themselves, and the entire people of Warri to register their support for the military government. The representatives of the Olu were Chief Mene Afejuku, Chief O.N. Rewane, Chief Idundun, Chief J.E. Ereku and Chief P.O. Awani.

SENEGAL

Sudanese President Numayri Arrives for Visit

AB132125 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Text] President Ja'far Numayri arrived in Dakar in the late afternoon for a 48-hour working visit. The Sudanese head of state was met by President Abdou Diouf with whom he will hold a private meeting tomorrow at 1000. Meanwhile, President Numayri will leave Dakar on Sunday for Morocco to attend the heads of state summit of the Islamic Conference Organization.

President Abdou Diouf will also attend the summit and will leave our capital on Sunday at 1030.

Numayri Assesses OAU Talks

JN141856 Khartoum SUNA in English 1750 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] Dakar, Jan 14 (SUNA) — President Numayri announced here today that his talks with Senegalese President Abdou Diouf has tackled the failure to convene the Chadian reconciliation conference in Addis Ababa. In response to questions by Sudan News Agency SUNA today President Numayri stated that he has also reviewed with President Diouf the prejudiced preparation of the Organization of African Unity to this conference. "The OAU should have prepared for this conference earnestly without preferring any part to the other and should have treated the Chadian Government as an internationally recognized government," the president said.

About Sudan's efforts for finding a solution to the Chadian problem in the forthcoming phase the president declined to comment, saying that this might hint that Sudan has contributed to the failure of the Chadian reconciliation talks.

Countries' Views 'Identical'

JN142030 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1752 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] Dakar, 14 Jan (SUNA) — During a meeting they held here today within the framework of President Numayri's official visit to Senegal, President Numayri and President Abdou Diouf discussed the African issues pertaining to the Chadian problem and the situation in the Western Sahara and the Horn of Africa. In reply to a question by SUNA, President Numayri announced that the two countries' policies were identical on most of the issues discussed.

President Numayri also explained that he differs with the OAU concerning its decision to hold a dialogue between Morocco and the Polisario, and said that the existing main difference is that the organization's committee on the Sahara issue had made decisions concerning the issue and the OAU did not take any steps to implement them. Moreover, the OAU made another mistake by deciding to impose the above-mentioned dialogue.

Numayri Departs 15 Jan

JN151805 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1730 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] Casablanca, 15 Jan (SUNA) — President Numayri arrived here from Dakar at 1530 today, Sudan local time, to participate in the Islamic Summit Conference scheduled to be held here tomorrow, Monday. He was received at Casablanca Airport by His Majesty King Hassan II. He and his delegation were accorded an official reception. He had left Dakar after an official visit to Senegal at the invitation of Senegalese President Abdou Diouf.

In a statement before leaving Dakar for Casablanca, President Numayri held a news conference at Dakar Airport in which he affirmed that his talks with President Diouf resulted in supporting the Palestinian people's right to self- determination as well as the efforts to bring about a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East; and the work to solve the Chadian problem on the basis of its unity, safety of land, and national unity as well as any move to promote African rights.

Mauroy Holds First Round of Talks With Diouf

AB131003 Paris AFP in French 1227 GMT 12 Jan 84

[Text] Dakar, 12 Jan (AFP) — French Prime Minister Pierre Mauroy this morning held his first discussions with Senegalese President Abdou Diouf and lauded "the deep, true, and authentic friendship" existing between the two countries.

Mr Mauroy, who arrived in Dakar yesterday evening for a 4-day official visit to Senegal, was decorated this morning by President Abdou Diouf with the Grand Cross of the Senegalese National Order. On the occasion, the Senegalese head of state paid tribute "to the great and rare competence with which you have, in your capacity as head of government and prime minister, put the friendship and cooperation between France and Senegal on an equal footing."

Replying, Mr Mauroy said: "One of your greatest merits in a difficult land is your ability to establish a multiparty system. You are one of the few countries, especially in Africa, to have made such an exemplary effort."

The Diouf-Mauroy meeting, which was also attended by French Cooperation Minister Christian Nucci, French Ambassador to Senegal Claude Harel, Senegalese Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Moustapha Niasse, and Senegalese Ambassador to France Amadou Cisse, will be followed this afternoon by a larger working session of the two delegations.

This evening French Prime Minister Mauroy and his wife will attend a dinner party to be organized in their honor by Mr Niasse.

SIERRA LEONE

Norwegian Reported Killed During Disturbances

AB131500 Paris AFP in English 1451 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Excerpts] Abidjan, Ivory Coast, Jan 13 (AFP) — At least three people, including a visiting Norwegian businessman, have been killed in Sierra Leone during the past 24 hours, sources arriving from Freetown indicated here today. Two Africans were killed during disturbances yesterday at Fourah Bay College in Freetown, the Sierra Leone capital, where the ruling party was holding its eighth national delegates conference.

The Norwegian businessman, identified as Bjoern Standal by Norwegian television, was shot by unidentified attackers behind the wheel of his car early today, the sources said. They added that many people were wounded in demonstrations yesterday in the Fourah Bay disturbances.

President Siaka Stevens closed the college indefinitely after the

disturbances which erupted shortly after he opened the ruling party congress. Freetown radio and television reported that the government had blamed students for the demonstrations in which vehicles were destroyed and several people were injured. The students also hijacked five vehicles.

Freetown was calm Friday, but a number of shops had been sacked during Thursday's troubles.

Stevens Comments on Disturbances

AB131800 Paris AFP in English 1710 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Excerpts] Freetown, Jan 13 (AFP) — President Siaka Stevens of Sierra Leone today said "things are difficult" in the west African state and announced the setting up of an inquiry committee to investigate the "causes of the recurrent episodes of indiscipline." President Stevens, who is also chancellor of Sierra Leone University, said: "Students can't hold the government to ransom." Mr. Stevens refused to say how long the college would remain closed following the disturbances. He said of the closing: "We will keep it under constant review, as we don't like to do it. But if discipline is lost in the country, then everything is lost."

The president said the government had taken no action to recover five buses hijacked by the students, since it wanted to avoid escalation of the conflict.

Mr. Stevens, who is leader for life of the People's Congress Party, said the disturbances had not affected the party's conference proceedings.

TOGO

Eyadema Receives Egypt's Butrus Ghali 12 Jan

AB132225 Paris AFP in French 0958 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Text] Lome, 13 Jan (AFP) — Butrus Ghali, Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, was received in Lome on Thursday by General Gnassingbe Eyadema, the Togolese president, to whom he delivered a "message of friendship and brotherliness" from Egyptian President, Husni Mubarak. After the meeting, Butrus Ghali said that he gave an invitation to Gen Eyadema from President Mubarak to visit Egypt on a date that has not yet been fixed. The Egyptian minister stated that he and the Togolese president examined in particular "the preoccupying problem of the crisis within the OAU" which "is likely to be aggravated in coming months," the cause being, according to him, the absence of a referendum in Western Sahara and ("the fact that) the Addis Ababa conference on Chad broke up on Friday, after failing to take place. Butrus Ghali stressed that Egypt and Togo have "the common objective of preventing the disintegration" of the OAU, as it "would constitute a real loss for African states."

The Egyptian minister will attend the national liberation festivities marking the 17th anniversary of the coming to power of President Eyadema, to be held in Lome on Friday.

UPPER VOLTA

Sankara Receives Cypriot Minister, PLO Envoy

AB141346 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0730 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] Yesterday, the chairman of the National Council of the Revolution [CNR] received Dr Christos Pelekanos, the Cypriot minister of health, and ('Abd ar-Rahim 'Abu Rabah), the PLO representative in Bamako.

The Cypriot minister brought a message from President Spyros Kyprianou for Captain Thomas Sankara. The message touched on the latest developments in the Cypriot problem following the proclamation on 15 November 1983 of the Turkish Republic of North Cyprus in the parts occupied by the Turkish Army. Dr Pelekanos took the opportunity to appeal to the CNR chairman to contribute to the implementation of Resolution 541 of the UN Security Council calling on all states to respect the sovereignty, the unity, the independence, and the territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus. In this connection he said that President Sankara showed understanding during the audience.

For his part, the PLO representative said he had conveyed to Capt Sankara the greetings and the gratitude of his brother Yasir 'Arafat, and of the Palestinian people for the unflinching support of the Upper Voltan people and Government.

He also discussed with the head of state the situation in the Middle East and bilateral relations between the PLO and Upper Volta. It should be recalled that in an interview with the press yesterday morning, the PLO representative said that the Palestinian and the Upper Voltan revolutions were complementary.

ANGOLA

Security Forces Mount Operations Against UNITA

MB161010 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 15 Jan 84

[All figures as heard]

[Text] Our defense and security forces mounted operations in the provinces of Huila, Bie, and Huambo from 30 December 1983 to 6 January 1984, in which 25 UNITA bandits were killed, 4 others captured, and 2 bases destroyed.

In Galangue commune, Huila Province, five gangsters were killed on 31 December 1983 and a quantity of weapons was captured.

In Chipindo Municipality, also in Huila Province, four counter-revolutionaries were killed on 1 January 1984. Our forces also destroyed a bandit base and freed seven civilians from the claws of the puppets.

On 2 January 1984, 55 km from Chitembo Municipality, in Bie Province, our defense and security forces and the People's Defense Organization [ODP] mounted separate operations which resulted in the death of two gangsters, the capture of another, and the seizure of a quantity of assorted materiel and weapons.

On 1 January 1984, a group of bandits was forced to take flight in disarray, leaving behind four of their group. This took place 25 km from Caala municipality, Huambo Province.

Four days later, another three bandits were killed. They were part of a group which wanted to infiltrate the capital of Huambo. In this operation our forces also captured three small arms and two machine guns.

Also on 5 January 1984, 75 km from the headquarters of Bailundo municipality, also in Huambo Province, the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola killed seven UNITA puppets and the remainder took flight as they were unable to withstand the gunfire.

In the area of (Mundu), on 6 January 1984, 10 bandits were killed when our forces surprised a group of gangsters which took flight. A few hours afterwards, another group tried to attack the municipality's headquarters but failed, leaving behind 3 of their colleagues, a hand grenade and 127 rounds of machine-gun ammunition.

Ambassador to UN: Situation in South 'Unchanged'

MB160734 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 16 Jan 84

[Text] The South African radio station, in an effort to confuse international public opinion, has announced that the total withdrawal of South African troops from the Angolan territory was to be completed yesterday. While it was hoped that more details would be given on the manner in which the withdrawal from the Angolan territory would be carried out, as well as details of the exact number of regular South African troops who would complete this withdrawal, South African radio limited itself to citing the commander of the Namibian territorial forces, who spoke about the materiel captured in Angola. The truth is that these South African statements can no longer deceive the international public opinion, which has not stopped condemning the invasion of the People's Republic of Angola by the troops of the racist Pretoria regime.

Meanwhile, Elisio de Figueiredo, the Angolan ambassador to the United Nations, has informed Javier Perez de Cuellar, the UN secretary general, that the situation in the south of the country is unchanged. He told the secretary general that the occupation of some areas of the martyred province of Cunene was continuing, in total disregard for the resolutions approved at the international level.

Assistance Sought From USSR, Cuba After RSA Raid

MB160800 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 16 Jan 84

[Text] ANGOP has published details of a press conference given by Lieutenant Colonel Rafael Sapelinha Sambalanga, the provincial commissioner of Huila, in which he said that the regular South African Army began military operations last December on three different fronts, with the aim of seizing Cahama, Cuvelai, Mulondo, and other areas. They are using three motorized brigades in these operations. Despite the intensification of the racist attacks supported by units of infantry, artillery, and air forces, including the use of toxic products with neuroparalyzing effects, the Angolan Army has been inflicting heavy casualties on the invading enemy both in men and materiel, Lt Col Rafael Sapelinha Sambalanga stressed.

In the face of this situation, the People's Republic of Angola was forced to resort to assistance from friendly countries, namely the USSR and Cuba, which are going to strengthen its defense capacity to resist the South African attacks that have penetrated over 200 km inside Angolan territory.

Cooperation Agreement, Protocol Signed With USSR

MB150640 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] A cooperation agreement between our country and the USSR for the development of fisheries in Angola, and a protocol related to the 1976 economic and technical cooperation agreement between the two countries were signed in Moscow yesterday. Under the terms of the agreement, the USSR will grant credits to Angola for the building of a fish-processing complex comprising a modern fishing port, seafood-processing enterprises, a refrigeration plant, ship-repair workshops, and a floating dock. The documents were signed following talks between officials of the USSR's State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations and Lopo do Nascimento, the Angolan planning minister, who described the signing of the two documents as evidence of the high level of political and economic relations between our country and the USSR.

Lopo do Nascimento spoke to APN press agency and pointed out that the formulation of the agreement was particularly important for the Angolan economy, inasmuch as the implementation of the project would significantly contribute to the solution of the food problem in our country, as well as permit an improvement in the exploitation of our national fishery reserves.

With regard to the protocol, Lopo do Nascimento told APN that it was drafted in the context of setting up public utility establishments in various provinces, which include hospitals and agricultural equipment repair workshops.

The Angolan minister praised the work performed by Soviet technicians in Angola, who face adversity to work in the fields of health, bridge construction, agriculture, transport, energy, and civil construction, thus assisting the Angolans in the building of a new fatherland.

UNITA Communique Announces Capture of Camaxilo

MB131313 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese 0400 GMT 13 Jan 84

[War communique issued by the UNITA Central Committee in December 1983 — place and date not given]

[Text] Point One: In the continuation of the UNITA offensive against the Cuban-Russian occupation forces, on 22 December 1983 UNITA attacked and captured the town of Camaxilo in the diamond area of Lunda, about 30 km from the Zaire border. Twenty-seven members of the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] soldiers were killed and Communal Commissioner (Guilherme Tato) was captured.

Point two: UNITA hopes to be in Lunda, in the northern part of the country, shortly to confront the multinationals who have ignored our appeals.

The kindness and the support of the people will take us to the remote parts of the country in the search for freedom and a new nation.

The struggle will triumph. United we shall win.

The president of UNITA, Dr Jonas Malheiro Savimbi.

UNITA Turns Over Captives

MB131315 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese 0400 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Communique issued by the UNITA Central Committee in December 1983 — date and place not given]

[Text] Point one: In response to several appeals by men of goodwill, UNITA decided to hand over to the International Committee of the Red Cross [ICRC] all persons captured in combat, except the Czechoslovaks. The turning over will take place at a UNITA base on 23 December 1983, on Christmas Eve [as heard], which is the festive day of the great Christian family.

As can be seen from the release date, the turning over took place in December 1983 on Christmas Eve. Christians throughout the world should remember on this day the anguish of the Angolan people, who are using weapons in their quest for their freedom and dignity.

Point Two: UNITA, in the face of a blind and intransigent refusal by the MPLA to release our militants, is ready to start negotiations with the ICRC to find a quick solution to the release of the Czechoslovak nationals. UNITA also holds 1300 members of the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola who were captured in combat during the year of 1983.

The struggle will triumph. United we shall win.

The President of UNITA, Dr Jonas Malheiro Savimbi.

LESOTHO

Irish Foreign Minister To Visit en Route to SADCC

MB131913 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Text] The Irish minister of state for foreign affairs, the Honorable James O'Keefe, will pay a 3-day official visit to Lesotho from 27 January to 30 January. He will be accompanied by his wife and two senior officials in the Department of Foreign Affairs in Dublin. This was announced today by the Irish consul general to Lesotho, His Excellency Mr Dennis Malin.

The announcement said Mr O'Keefe, who visited Lesotho for the first time in August 1981, will be visiting projects funded under Ireland's bilateral cooperation program with Lesotho. The projects which make up the bilateral aid program have been identified in close consultation between the two governments, and are designed to meet specific requirements in Lesotho's development efforts.

Mr Malin said in 1983 Ireland spent approximately 3.5 million maluti on the development cooperation program in Lesotho. The Irish minister will sign a technical cooperation agreement between Lesotho and Ireland on the day of his arrival in the country. Among functions arranged during the minister's visit will be the official opening of the Center for Accounting Studies, and the marketing center of the Basotho Pony project, at (Chaladisa), near the Modimo Nthuse mountain resort.

The two projects have been established under the Irish bilateral aid progaram to Lesotho. On the last day of his visit, Mr O'Keefe will have an audience with His Majesty King Moshoeshoe II, and also pay a courtesy call on the prime minister, the Right Honorable Dr Leabua Jonathan.

The Irish minister will be visiting Lesotho during his Southern African trip to the conference of the Southern African Development Coordination Conference, in Lusaka from 1 to 3 February.

MAURITIUS

Prime Minister Explains Expulsion of Libyans

AB141410 Paris AFP in English 1334 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] Port Louis, Jan 14 (AFP) — The prime minister of Mauritius, Aneerood Jugnauth, told a press conference here today that his government yesterday expelled all the Libyan diplomats on this Indian Ocean island because of a speech made recently by Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

The speech, addressed to all world leaders and published in a newspaper here, called on Christians to read the Koran to find out "the truth about Jesus Christ". Colonel al-Qadhdhafi also said the Christian world had "taken a step backwards and was starting to disintegrate".

The prime minister said the speech attacked the beliefs of Christians living on Mauritius, and could have caused friction between Christian and Muslims.

He did not consider diplomatic relations with Libya as broken off, but the Government of Mauritius no longer wanted the "physical presence of Libyans" on the island.

The secretary of the Libyan People's Bureau (embassy) here, Ibrahim al-Jabri, told reporters yesterday shortly before leaving Mauritius that the expulsion had come as a complete surprise.

As he and three other Libyan diplomats waited for a plane to London, Mr al-Jabri said they had been given no explanation for the expulsion.

But he added that Libya was the target of a campaign by "colonial, imperialist and reactionary forces" who wanted to tarnish the country's image.

MOZAMBIQUE

Talks With RSA on Tourism, Economic Matters Begin

RSA Tourism Delegation Arrives

MB131240 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Text] A South African delegation arrived in Maputo this morning for talks with the Mozambique authorities on tourism. The seven-person delegation is led by Daniel Hough, chairman of the South African Tourism Council, and was greeted at Maputo airport by Commandant Bacelar, general director of the Mozambique Airlines, and the general director of the National Tourism Enterprise, (George Wells).

The talks between the two delegations begin in Maputo this morning. Other Mozambique and South African delegations will meet simultaneously on Monday in Maputo and Pretoria. The talks were decided upon at the last meeting between the two countries on 20 December last year in Swaziland.

Tourism Talks 'Frank, Fruitful'

MB131730 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Text] The South African delegation to talks in Maputo with Mozambique on the improvement of tourism between the two countries says the first round of talks has gone off well. The discussions are being held in terms of an agreement on cooeration concluded in Swaziland last month. The talks opened in Maputo this afternoon, and the leader of the South African delegation, the chairman of the Tourism Board, Mr Daniel Hough, says the discussions have been frank and fruitful. Mr Hough told our political staff that the consultations would be continued on Monday after he and his delegation had visited tourist attractions in and around Maputo at the weekend.

At today's talks the Mozambican delegation was under the leadership of the country's secretary for tourism, Mr Antonio Materrula. The talks on security matters, economic cooperation, and the future of the Cahora Bassa hydroelectric scheme will be held in Pretoria on Monday between other working groups.

Delegation Visits Resorts

MB141250 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] The South African tourism delegation which arrived in Maputo yesterday left this morning for a visit to the island of Inhaca, a 10-minute flight away to the other side of Maputo Bay. The delegation, led by the chairman of the South African Tourist Board, Daniel Hough, will tour the hotel complex on the island, which was closed for several months last year for renovation. The visiting delegaiton had planned to make a boat trip close to the island, but this may have to be cancelled because of bad weather.

Tomorrow, Mr Hough and the other officials will be visiting three beach resorts in the south of the country close to the border with Natal Province: Ponta do Ouro, Ponto (?Malambane), and Ponto Mamoli.

Talks with Mozambique officials will take place on Monday. A source close to the talks told the Mozambique news agency that the preliminary discussions held at Hotel Polana yesterday had been positive.

Official Welcomes Economic Delegation

MB161156 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 16 Jan 84

[Text] Talks by the working group on economic affairs between delegations of the People's Republic of Mozambique and the Republic of South Africa began in Maputo this morning. The Mozambique delegation to the talks is led by Jacinto Veloso, minister in the presidency for economic affairs, and the South African delegation is led by Hans van Dalsen, director general of foreign affairs.

Speaking at the opening session, the minister in the presidency for economic affairs began by extending greetings to the South

African delegation, whose presence in Maputo, he said, is interpreted by Mozambique as revealing the South African Government's intention to develop activities which would put an end to violence and the escalation of war and would lead to the establishment of a climate of peace, stability, and development, not only in our own countries but also throughout Southern Africa. Jacinto Veloso added that the meeting is aimed at studying ways of implementing the principles of the economic relationship which have already been decided upon by the Governments of Mozambique and South Africa. The minister in the presidency pointed out that these principles of mutual respect, equality, noninterference and mutual advantage must orient the proceedings of the present meeting of the working group on economic affairs.

In turn, Hans van Dalsen, the head of the South African delegation and director general of foreign affairs, began by expressing thanks for the manner in which his delegation was received. He then pointed out that there are already signs of cooperation between the two countries although, according to him, an improvement in their relationship is necessary. The head of the South African delegation added that the possibilities for cooperation are immense and success is possible.

Information just received from Pretoria notes that in the South African capital talks have also been taking place on military and security issues between Mozambique and South Africa. The talks are taking place at the "Government Guest House" near Pretoria. The Mozambique delegation is led by Colonel Jose Oscar Monteiro, the minister of justice. It also includes Colonel Sergio Vieira, deputy minister of national defense, Major General Salesio Nalyambipano, deputy minister of security, and Major General Hama Thai, Air Force commander.

MNR: Talks 'No Problem'

MB141244 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] The Mozambique Resistance Movement, Renamo, says a cooperation agreement between the Governments of South Africa and Mozambique might slow down its campaign against the Government of Mozambique, but that this is not a problem. A Renamo representative said in Lisbon that time was not a factor in the fight against the Mozambique Government. He said that in spite of the negotiaitons between South Africa and Mozambique, Renamo was planning to isolate Maputo this year and to shoot down aircraft and helicopters with ground-to-air missiles.

Communique Reveals New Defense Ministry Officials

MB150725 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Communique issued by the Office of the President in Maputo on 14 January]

[Text] During 1983, the Mozambique Armed Forces achieved important victories in the struggle against armed gangsters, and in the defense of national sovereignty, territorial integrity, the inviolability of our borders, and revolutionary gains, as well as in the building of socialism.

These victories and advances are linked to the consolidation of the Mozambique Armed Forces, which needs to be further implemented.

In this context, there is a need to strengthen the leadership of the central bodies of the Ministry of National Defense, as well as the leadership of the provincial military commands.

Within the terms of the powers conferred upon him by the Constitution Field Marshal Samora Moises Machel, chairman of the Frelimo Party, president of the People's Republic of Mozambique, and commander in chief of the FPLM, appoints:

1. Major General Armando Alexandre Panguene to the post of deputy minister of national defense and the national political commissar of the Mozambique Armed Forces;

2. Colonel Sergio Vieira, to the post of deputy minister of national defense;

3. Major-General Joaquim Munhepe to the post of state secretary for national defense and the head of telecommunications of the FPLM;

4. Major Gideon Ndobe to the post of the state secretary for national defense;

5. Major-General Antonio Hama Thai to the post of Air Force commander;

6. Major-General Joao Facitela Pelembe to the post of director of the Military Training Center at Dondo;

7. Major-General (Salvador Mutumuque) to the post of military commander of Maputo Province;and

8. Brigadier Aleixo Malunga to the post of military commander of Sofala Province.

The struggle continues.

Maputo, 14 January 1984

Officials Meet With Visiting U.S. Senator Danforth

MB151200 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0600 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] U.S. Senator John Danforth, will visit a number of our country's provinces today. John Danforth has arrived in Maputo for an official visit to Mozambique. Yesterday, he was received by Daniel Saul Mbanze, our country's deputy foreign minister, with whom he exchanged views on the strengthening of cooperation between Mozambique and the United States. The U.S. senator also held a meeting with the secretaries of state for supply, international cooperation, and civil aviation, among other officials, to familiarize himself with the drought situation in our country.

NAMIBIA

SWAPO Issues Denial of Combat Role in Angola

MB131524 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Text] Only Angolan troops are taking part in the combat in southern Angola, under the banner of the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola. This has been reported by SWAPO in a communique issued in Luanda. Thus, SWAPO once again denies the statements made by the Pretoria authorities, which are intended to make the world believe that the invasion against Angola is only in pursuit of guerrilla units of that organization. In its communique SWAPO states that none of its combatants has fallen victim to the bombardment of the South African Air Force and artillery, for its guerrilla units have been inside Namibia.

That organization once again expresses its desire to begin talks with the South African authorities in order to discuss the future of Namibia, which is inevitably linked to the implementation of UN Resolution 435.

SWAPO Leader Views Recent RSA Actions

AU131036 Rome ANSA in English 0851 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Excerpt] (ANSA) Rome, January 13 — A leader of the South West African People's Organization [SWAPO] called for a continuing mobilization of international public opinion to force the South African Government to end its "continued violation of human rights".

SWAPO leader Shapua Kaukungwa spoke in Rome Thursday at a meeting organized by the Italian Committee for Solidarity With South African Peoples.

The SWAPO leader said that "the bloody incursions by South African commandos in Angola, which have claimed hundreds of lives, contrary to claims by the Pretoria government have not involved even one SWAPO fighter.

"These insinuations are directed at upholding the government's policy of linkage between granting independence to Namibia and the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola.

"[word indistinct] rests on the theory, firmly denied by SWAPO, that Angolans, Cubans and SWAPO are a single military force," Kaukongwa concluded.

SWAPO Criticizes Zambian Paper Over Namibia

MB140944 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] SWAPO has hit out at the Zambian Government-owned *TIMES* newspaper, at what it calls disparaging, hostile, and naive remarks about the terrorist movement's fight for independence in South-West Africa. The SWAPO information office in Lusaka said that a recent editorial in the newspaper attempted to shift the blame for lack of progress toward independence from South Africa to SWAPO.

In its editorial of 5 January the newspaper called on SWAPO to hold direct talks with South Africa without wasting any more time. The newspaper also said that SWAPO should have accepted the South African truce offer last month. The editorial also said that SWAPO should not persist with its belief that it could beat South Africa by armed struggle alone. SWAPO should stop making pious statements, the paper said, and have a new look at the situation in South-West Africa.

SOUTH AFRICA

15 Jan Set as Completion Date for Angola Withdrawal

MB131805 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1754 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Text] Evale, southern Angola, Jan 13, SAPA — The final withdrawal of South African troops from southern Angola is expected to be completed by Sunday, the officer commanding the South West African Territory Force, Major-General George Meiring, said today.

He said the withdrawal, begun last Sunday, was expected to have been completed by now but had been delayed three or four days by bad weather, flooded rivers, and impassable routes. Because of the inclement weather, security forces had to use roads instead of going through the bush. But at one point the South Africans had to build a bridge over a tributary of the Cuvelai River near Mupa — about 50 km south of Cuvelai, scene of a fierce battle between South African troops and a combined Angolan-Cuban-SWAPO force last week — to speed up the withdrawal, he said.

Reporters were today flown to a point about 140 km inside Angola, near the village of Evale, where they saw hundreds of South African armoured vehicles and troops withdrawing to SWA/Namibia. The troops were also carting tons of equipment of Soviet origin captured in the month-long operation against SWAPO insurgents, code-named "Operation Askari."

Among the captured hardware shown the reporters were three Soviet-made AGS17 30mm automatic grenade launchers. According to military intelligence sources, this is the first time that the launchers, among the most modern and sophisticated in the Soviet arsenal, have ever been deployed south of Afghanistan. As far is known, the only two countries outside the USSR where they have been deployed before are Afghanistan and East Germany. "This shows that Russia is supplying SWAPO with its latest and most sophisticated weaponry, and illustrates the direct support being given to SWAPO by the Soviets," a military weapons expert, Colonel Des Radmore, told military correspondants.

The South African withdrawal marks the end of one of the most arduous and drawn-out battles in the 17-year long war between security forces and SWAPO guerillas. Between 300 and 500 "enemy" soldiers and 21 South Africans — the greatest number since "Operation Savannah" in 1975 — were killed in the latest South African foray into southern Angola. Several prisoners,

including a Cuban and a number of Angolans, were taken by South Africa in the preemptive strike.

South Africa deployed approximately 2,000 troops in the operation. SWAPO's fighting strength is estimated at between 6,000 and 7,000.

During the battle at Cuvelai, in which South African forces destroyed 11 Russian 156 tanks and killed over 300 SWAPO and Angolan soldiers, South African troops were outnumbered by five to one, General Meiring said. "We have proved that the South African fighting soldier is up to fighting anything put against us," he said.

Despite the unusually high number of South African deaths, military strategists have described the latest raid as a "major success." According to General Meiring, South Africans and SWA/Namibian security forces succeeded in disrupting a planned infiltration by about 1,000 SWAPO insurgents into SWA/Namibia. The infiltration attempt by SWAPO is an annual event, planned to coincide with the rainy season in Northern SWA/Namibia when lush vegetation provides good cover for insurgents.

ANC Training in Angola

MB140806 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Excerpts] The final withdrawal of South African forces from southern Angola should be completed by Sunday. The officer commanding the South-West African Territory Force, Major General George Meiring, told local and foreign newsmen during a briefing at Ondangwa in northern South-West Africa/Namibia that conditions in the area had delayed the planned withdrawal started last Saturday.

Gen Meiring confirmed that there was every reason to believe that ANC units were being trained in the vicinity of Luanda, the Angolan capital. He said there was also evidence of ANC terrorists near Lubango in central Angola. South Africa has repeatedly warned neighboring and other countries that she will seek out and destroy anti-South African terrorist units no matter where they are and irrespective of the consequences.

Talks With Mozambique on Security Begin

MB160944 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0911 GMT 16 Jan 84

[Text] Pretoria, Jan 16, SAPA — The top-level talks on security matters started in Pretoria this morning between the working groups of the South African and Mozambican Governments.

The Mozambican delegation, led by the minister of justice, Colonel Jose Monteiro, arrived at the "Government Guest House" in Pretoria shortly after 9:30 am and the talks commenced about half an hour later.

South Africa's representatives are being led by the commissioner of police, General Johan Coetzee. Other members include Dr Jannie Roux, secretary-general of the prime minister's office, Lieutenant-General Ian Gleeson, chief of staff operations of the South African Defence Force, and the deputy director-general of foreign affairs, Mr Ray Killen.

The minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, has said that the working group on security was intended to propose practical ways of eliminating all forms of subversion and violence as well as mechanism by which this process could be effectively implemented and monitored.

The talks are expected to continue for most of the day, after which both sides will report back to their governments.

Various Talks Could Bring Botha-Machel Summit

MB151050 Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English 15 Jan 84 pp 1,2

[By Fleur De Villiers]

[Text] A summit meeting between Mr P.W. Botha and President Samora Machel of Mozambique is on the cards — if the current ministerial talks between Pretoria and Maputo stay on track.

Informed sources in Pretoria said yesterday that a meeting between the two leaders was both possible and desirable in the new climate of cooperation between Marxist Mozambique and Pretoria.

It was stressed however that everything depended on tomorrow's talks between the four working groups which will discuss security issues, tourism, economic affairs and the Cahora Bassa scheme.

If the talks succeed the contacts could become permanent and the working groups converted into standing committees, sources said.

Mozambique's membership of the OAU precluded an exchange of diplomatic or consular missions with South Africa, but a way could be found to establish permanent inter-government contacts.

South Africa already maintains a trade mission in Mozambique, while Maputo has a labor representative in Johannesburg, and these mission could also be expanded.

"It should not be impossible to find a formula for proper representation without treading on Third World toes," sources said.

They warned, however, against any hope of a "quick fix" in South Africa's relations with its eastern neighbour, or suggestions that South African tourist could soon be streaming to Maputo.

Tomorrow's meetings would be critical and both parties would be happy simply to keep them on track. A long series of top level contacts would probably be required before results become apparent.

Sources stressed that the success of the talks hinged on the meeting between the working group on security issues.

South Africa accepted that Mozambique could not close its borders to ANC refugees. Sources also conceded that it would be extraordinarily difficult for the Maputo government to effectively police its borders to prevent ANC incursions into South Africa.

This, however, did not rule out the possibility of closer cooperation between the security forces of the two governments to keep ANC incursions into South Africa and RENAMO subversion in Mozambique to a minimum — possibly through an early-warning system or "hotline" contact.

It was acknowledged, however, that any agreement would be extremely fragile. One ANC bomb in Pretoria, one Renamo leader who refused to toe Pretoria's line, could destroy the whole initiative.

There was evidence, sources said, of Mozambique interest in South African investment in the war and drought-ravaged country, in technical advice — particularly on agricultural issues — and in making the country more attractive to South African tourists.

It was unlikely, however, that a Marxist country would be eager to go the "casino" road to Lesotho and Swaziland and the Mozambicans were probably more interested in offering more austere holidays to smaller groups of tourists.

Authorities in Pretoria strongly deny that the meetings are taking place simply at Washington's behest.

They point out that Pretoria maintained close links on official level with Maputo for some years after the former Portuguese colony won its independence.

But it was only with the Komatipoort talks in December 1982 between Foreign Minister Mr Pik Botha and his Mozambican opposite number that the Maputo government agreed to talks at ministerial level.

The establishment of a series of minsterial working groups was proposed during the second round of Komatipoort talks in May last year, but the idea was torpedoed by the Pretoria bomb blast and the subsequent South African raid on ANC houses in Maputo.

The idea was revived shortly after the South African referendum in November and took shape during the Mozambican-South African talks in Swaziland last month.

SWAZILAND

Foreign Minister on Official Visit to Mozambique

MB131738 Mbabane Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Text] The minister for foreign affairs, Mr R.V. Dlamini, left the country today for Maputo, Mozambique, on an official visit. The permanent secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr Z.L. Mkhonta, told the Swaziland Broadcasting Service that the minister, who is accompanied by his wife, has been invited by the Government of the People's Republic of Mozambique. Mr Mkhonta said during his 4-day visit the minister will hold bilateral talks with the Mozambican authorities and discuss matters of mutual interest as well as international affairs.

Military Units Set Up Security Checkpoints

MB160505 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1300 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] Swazi military units have set up a series of checkpoints throughout the country in an intensified security drive. Army Chief of Staff Mangomeni Ndzimandze has confirmed that the checkpoints will be controlled by the Swazi army. He says that security checks follow threats against Swazi tribal officials and government members.

ZAMBIA

Kaunda Returns From Holiday, Calls for Unity

MB132014 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Text] His excellency the president, Dr Kenneth Kaunda, has arrived back in Lusaka from a New Year working holiday at Mfuwe, in the Luangwa South National Game Park. Dr Kaunda was met at the international airport by Party Secretary General Humphrey Mulemba; Prime Minister Nalumino Mundia; Secretary of State for Defense and Security Grey Zulu; and other senior party and government officials, who braved rain to greet Dr Kaunda at the airport. Dr Kaunda watched traditional dances performed by the party militants and the Zambian national dance troupe before he was driven to State House.

Earlier, the president said that civil wars, chaos, and starvation in many countries of the world were a result of divisions based on color, tribe, and other differences among nationals. Addressing thousands of people, including Eastern Province member of the Central Committee Betty Chilunga, Paramount Chiefs Mpezini and (Gawawonde), and other senior party and government officials who thronged the airport at Mfuwe to see him off to Lusaka, Dr Kaunda called for love and unity among Zambians to save the country from plunging into chaos and starvation.

ZIMBABWE

Foreign Minister Condemns Western Support for RSA

MB140930 Harare Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, Comrade Witness Mangwende, has denounced racist South Africa's Western allies for their continuity of silence over the Pretoria regime's use of brute force in southern Angola. Speaking at a farewell luncheon for the Bangladash high commissioner to Zimbabwe, Mr Saber Karim, in Harare yesterday, Comrade Mangwende said South Africa's Western allies continue to attach great importance to

the principles of [words indistinct] sovereignty and territorial integrity. He said the violation of Angola's borders and the occupation of part of its territory is condoned without any justification whatsoever [sentence as heard]. Comrade Mangwende challenged South Africa's allies to stop shedding crocodile tears for Angola and Frontline States and come out in the open about their stand on racism.

The minister also praised the (?increasing) state and political relations between Zimbabwe and Bangladash. He also called on the two countries to establish cultural ties.